

your practical guide to beautiful living

home

SA's
No.1
home and garden
magazine

October 2015 R36

5 blissful bathrooms

page 50

**Colouring
for adults**
Get crafty with
our fresh ideas

3 homes with heart

A stylish blend of

old & new

Romantic reno in Cullinan • A vintage gem in PE
Paint guru Annie Sloan opens her home to us

FOOD **Tempting teatime treats**
(Bake today, diet tomorrow...)

**Fix it with
Flair 2015**
Our Top 5!

JOZI PARADISE

**A rose garden
all in white**

+ *Design
your own
with plant
lists and
sketches*

Other countries R31,58



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Cover photograph: Francois Oberholster
Styling: Shelly Bergh

Hello

Sometimes, you should think carefully before you speak; I've learnt that the hard way.

Many years ago, while still a novice in the night office of the Cape Town newspaper *Die Burger*, I paid a compliment to a colleague (now a friend) about the way she did her job. I was part of a team of people who were doing copy editing and page layout, and that night she was the revise copy editor – the one with the final say.

The revise copy editor always sat in the same spot. It wasn't always the same person, but that night Amelia was "in the chair".

Just after nine in the evening, the first edition of the newspaper was at the printers and we were taking a break. We were chatting about the evening's news and I was asking questions about some of the language issues I'd encountered. After Amelia had once again patiently helped me with some or other rule about prepositions or pronouns, I made a huge blunder. I said: "Wow, Amelia, it's really great when you're in the chair – you really fill it well."

No, it wasn't a reference to her weight (and, incidentally, that wasn't an issue), but the rest of the office fell into a horrified silence and immediately assumed I was calling her fat. I was trying to say that she was very thorough; you know, as one would say "you have really filled so-and-so's shoes". I was saying she'd "filled the chair"...

Then some time ago, I mentioned in my editor's letter that one should dispose of items not being used. Don't be a hoarder – less is more. Shortly thereafter, I received a distraught letter from a reader: she couldn't believe I had no use for old things. She threatened to stop reading *Home* and stated categorically that for the time being, she didn't like me, although she was sure she would feel differently some day.

I emailed back: no, you misunderstood me! It's precisely because I don't believe that one should keep heirlooms wrapped in cotton wool that I have the philosophy of having only one set of everything. Because for the first time in 40 years, I'm using an old fish-shaped platter my mother always displayed on the dining room table. I drink tea from my Ouma Pretorius's floral cups. I store the extra toilet rolls in the guest bathroom in an old bedpan (I'd rather not know whose it was...).

The point here is: heirlooms are more than showpieces – drink from them, eat off them, use them. Our readers' homes in this issue are living proof of this. Vintage, yes, but also contemporary – a stunning blend of old and new.



Wicus



Yard!

Our new *Home Yard*, jam-packed with ideas for outdoors, **is on shelf now** – make sure you get your copy. If you struggle to find it, please email editor@homemag.co.za.

Our new **Tuis|Home Dirty Hands Chalky Décor Paint** was launched last month and in this issue we show you how to use our paint and your own colouring pictures to create fun décor pieces in your home. Turn to page 12 for our 'Fresh ideas' and to page 128 to see the other available colours and the order form.



home

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your space

Write to us at Home, Readers' Letters, PO Box 1802, Cape Town 8000; email editor@homemag.co.za, fax 021 408 3046, and join our Facebook group (facebook.com/homemag) or follow us on Twitter @TuisHomeMag.

IN SHORT

I really enjoyed Riana Scheepers' heart-warming story about little Louis sneaking away to see his granny in your August 2015 issue. It made me smile. Thanks for a great magazine! – **Marian Oare, PE**

Karen Dudley's July 2015 column took me right back to my childhood... I can smell, taste, feel, hear and see everything she described! Those are the kind of memories you can't fully relate to those who did not live them – I've tried to explain the periwinkle cooking and eating scenario to my Highveld-born husband countless times! Living in Gauteng, one really misses that connection to the ocean and the reverence for its fresh offerings. I'm going to try to recreate those memories for my daughter with Karen's recipes. – **Karen Mahlangu, Gauteng**

The editor reserves the right to edit letters at his discretion.

WINNING LETTER

Pretty paint job

Sue Anthony of George writes

About 25 years ago, a friend bought an old wooden unit from a scrap dealer for R16, intending to chop it up and use the wood for a joint venture making beehives with my husband.

Luckily, I saw it before it fell under the hammer, so to speak. I claimed it as my own and proceeded to try and strip years of hideous grey and green paint off it. Unfortunately, it was in too bad a state to leave as raw



wood, so I repainted it with Bauernmalerei detail and it has housed our TV all these years, with space above for my ornaments and plates.

Making the connection

Izelle Theunissen of Strand writes

I really enjoyed the July 2015 issue of *Home* – but it became an even better read when I came upon the article about Moolmanshof in Swellendam. Between 1997 and 1999, my husband and I lived next door to Moolmanshof where we ran a B&B (De Waegenmaker) before the 25% interest rate disaster hit us.

During that time, we befriended John and Alison Hely Hutchinson who were living in Moolmanshof. John was an avid musician and I became a member of the Swellendam String Quartet.

I recently cleaned out my music cupboard and found a programme; John and Alison had hosted an evening in celebration of Moolmanshof's 200th anniversary. As a typical scientist, John had done thorough research into its history and included it in the programme. The sketches were done by Marena van Hemert, who at the time worked at the Drosty Museum in town.



A fabulous new floor

Glenda Bok of Upington writes

I decided to add a lovely stencil design to my floor with Annie Sloan paint. It took three days to paint the base colour, but the stencilling alone took more than four weeks.

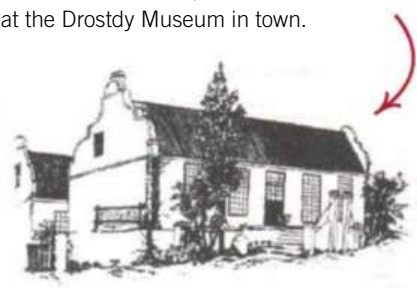
I have now sealed it with Dekster 121 Colour Retaining Primer, a water-based varnish. I'm not sure how well it will protect the floor – if you know of a better product, please let me know. I really don't want my hard work to get ruined!

Thank you for a great magazine filled with inspiration; I get very upset if my copy of *Home* doesn't arrive on time. It's my husband's fault because he doesn't collect the post often enough!



WIN! The writer of the winning letter gets a Linen Drawer gift voucher worth R1 500!

Linen Drawer produces and sells top quality pure cotton percale and pure linen bedding and bath accessories including throws, bathrobes, towels, duvets, pillows and bed wraps. All of its cotton products have hypoallergenic properties. Linen Drawer's user-friendly website makes it easy to order products online and delivery is free anywhere in South Africa; go to linendrawer.co.za or call 021 872 0108.





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diary

Send diary entries to diary@homemag.co.za at least three months before the event.

Compiled by **Zanelle Roodt**

SA's favourite hobby and craft expo, **Hobby-X**, is back at Gallagher Estate, **Midrand** on **1-4 October**. Shop the trends and enjoy the latest DIY innovations first-hand! Tickets cost R60 for adults and R20 for kids at the door; visit hobby-x.co.za.

ON THE BOX

Check out *Unhinged* (starts 1 October on the Home Channel, 176 on DStv) and follow interior designer and building contractor Summer Baltzer as she and her family of designers and developers help the innocent victims of bad contractors, turning disasters into triumphs!

The Good Food and Wine Show

30 October – 1 November:

Durban Exhibition Centre

Rub shoulders with international and local celebrity chefs – including MasterChef Australia 2014 winner Brent Owens – and find out what's hot on the foodie front at The Good Food and Wine Show. Tickets cost R90 for adults and R40 for kids (Celebrity Chefs theatre tickets charged separately) at computicket.com; for more info visit goodfoodandwineshow.co.za.



Durbanville Hills, Diemersdal, Nitida, Meerendal...

Season of Sauvignon Festival

24 & 25 October:

Durbanville Wine Valley

Join the festivities and explore the charms of 12 prestigious wine farms. With all kinds of entertainment on offer, there's plenty of fun to be had by adults and kids alike. For details, call 083 310 1228 or email info@durbanvillewine.co.za.



The Sanlam Handmade Contemporary Fair (previously known as the **Food Wine Design Fair**) from **9-11 October** on the rooftop at Jo'burg's Hyde Park Corner hosts SA's most exciting designers, food producers and winemakers. Tickets cost R90 at webtickets.co.za or R110 at the door (under-12s enter free); call 011 447 3868 or go to sanlamhmc.co.za.

October flashes

It's Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

2-4: Made in the Cape, a monthly artisan goods market held in Cavendish Square in **Claremont**, showcases the finest in local creative talent with products including jewellery, ceramics, textiles and much more. Visit their page on Facebook; search for MadeInTheCape.

10: The **Elim Wine & Food Celebration** at Strandveld Vineyards offers great fun for the whole family, including cycling, a trail run, yummy fresh produce and live music. Entrance is R75 per person over 18; for bookings and details, visit webtickets.co.za or call 028 482 1902.

14: Take a rescue dog for a walk in The Company's Garden in **Cape Town**. A TEARS Animal Rescue & Hill's initiative, #savedbythedogs takes place from 11:00-14:00. Follow #savedbythedogs, call 021 785 4482 or go to bit.ly/savedbythedogs.

17: Spend a spring day at the **Prince Alfred Hamlet** Karoo Cultural Festival. Enjoy a wildflower show, classic motorcars and vintage tractors, sheep-shearing and bread-baking demos, and traditional riel dancing. There's also a petting zoo, jumping castles, rock climbing and much more for the little ones; call 082 450 9532.

19: *November issue of Home on sale!*

22-31: Get a head start on Christmas shopping at the **Robertson Festive Market** at the NG Church in Robertson East. Expect delicious eats, décor items and gifts for the whole family; call 083 564 2446 or email helainel@mweb.co.za.

28 & 29: The 63rd Country Fair hosted by charity organisation The Christmas Fair Fund at the Collisheen Estate, **Ballito**, invites you to shop in the beautiful gardens and check out their cooking, styling and décor demos; call 083 284 9059 or email michelle@thechristmasfairfund.co.za.

31 October – 1 November: Don't miss the spectacular Cape Town International Kite Festival in **Muizenberg**, proudly hosted by Cape Mental Health. Tickets cost R30 (R10 for under-12s); email info@cmh.org.za for details.



Join us at **KAMERS Stellenbosch** from **27 October – 1 November** to celebrate local design, craft, art, music, food and wine at the magnificent Webersburg Wine Farm! Visit kamersvol.com.



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what's new

Compiled by **Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel**

Please send décor and lifestyle news to news@homemag.co.za.

Watch this space!

BUSINESS Maria Magdalena

WHO Maria Magdalena van Wyk

WHERE Cape Town

HER WORK We first spotted Magdalena at the Design Indaba Expo earlier this year as one of the Emerging Creatives. Clearly we weren't the only ones impressed by her black and white line drawings. Soon after, she became involved in various collaborations, including the Tintin in Africa exhibition at Studio Dylan Thomaz in Cape Town and Le Galeria in New York.

Originally from Port Elizabeth, Magdalena says she considers her current path in the Mother City as a humble adventure in her freelance graphic design and illustration career.

For the month of October, exactly one year after she launched her career, her original collection and eight new '100 Tiny Originals' with a focus on the female shape and a celebration of all its curves will be on display in Durban. "Each drawing comes with a poem and quite a few of them are self-portraits," says Magdalena.

Pop in to see The Wander Collection at Jane Sews at The Commune, 39 Station Drive, Durban or visit mariamagdalena.co.za.



Hot products

Kids will love these fun, 100% cotton rugs (from R695) from Pitter Patter Home; they're available in four designs and three sizes. To see more, visit pitterpatterhome.co.za.

Nothing adds personality to a home quite like a chandelier. We love this new four-light beauty (R1 045; code CH238ABR) from Eurolux; go to eurolux.co.za.

Add some pizzazz to your bathroom with the Tivoli Sofi chrome basin mixer (R1 990) from Italtile; visit italtile.co.za.

Add British-inspired elegance to any room with Hertex's beautiful new Lake District collection (from R730/m). It features old-world linen prints slightly faded and aged in appearance. To view the entire range, go to hertex.co.za.

Fabric

Biggie Best has launched an affordable range of grey fabrics (R110–R424/m) from chunky herringbone upholsteries to delicate voiles. This medley of tones and weaves makes it easy to introduce trendy greys into your home. Go to biggiebestwebshop.co.za.



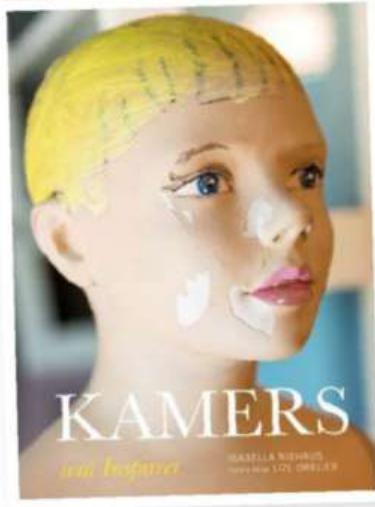
Photo's by The Lion & The Lady



Local is lekker



Always fancied a traditional Xhosa blanket? Blankets and Weaves has introduced an affordable acrylic version for only R280 (190 x 220cm). The bright white with bold red stripes is one of many designs that will spruce up your décor. Visit blanketsandweaves.co.za.



Add a personal touch to a special celebration with pretty vintage bunting (R100/m; 42 x 28cm per fabric rectangle). Email creativekids40@gmail.com.

If you're a fan of the Kamers pop-up fairs held around the country, you'll love the coffee table book *Kamers – Wat Inspireer* (R300; Jonathan Ball Publishers) – it's currently only available in Afrikaans, but it's still lovely to look at! The book features art curators (including our own Stash It contributor Jo-Marie Rabe), bakers and jewellery designers, among others.

For a paint shop with a difference, pop in at Paintsmiths at 10 Jan van Riebeeck Road, Paarl. Besides paint products and services, pop-up shops in-store will cater for all your decorating needs. For details, call 021 871 1247.



Shop alert



117 On Long is Ceramic Factory's new Cape Town home. Partnering with local creatives, A Love Supreme and Artvraat Designs, they offer all sorts of must-haves from gift wrapping and stationery to fabrics and scatters, as well as a covetable range of ceramics.

Coricraft has opened its biggest store yet in Kramerville, Johannesburg. The 2 500m² double-volume space has been built around a multi-level apartment that showcases the Coricraft and Volpes collections. Visit 14A Kramer Road or call 011 262 1710.



Keep calm and colour in

Colouring isn't just for kids – it's a fun hobby for adults too!
We show you what to do with your works of art.

*By Johané Neilson • Photographs Francois Oberholster
Additional styling Marian van Wyk*

Day of the jackal

Browse second-hand markets and car boot sales for an old wooden tray. Sand it lightly, give the inside a fresh coat of paint and add an eye-catching colouring picture. Seal it with a clear varnish to make it waterproof.

Yellow crockery from @home





Pride of place

If your colouring pictures are A3 in size, they will make the perfect placemats. Laminate your pictures, or first paint the tabletop then position the pictures with Mod Podge to create permanent settings. Seal the surface afterwards with two coats of Mod Podge. >>

Blue replica Tolix chairs from Chair Crazy





1



2



3

1 Say it with flowers

Wrap a simple bouquet of flowers in your colouring pictures for that special someone. Write a personal message on the reverse side of the picture and add a final flourish with a pretty ribbon.

2 Top drawer

Use your colouring pictures to decorate the interior of drawers and the back of bookshelves and cupboards. Keep the pictures in place with a few coats of Mod Podge.

3 Creative with cork

Make a noticeboard with a few pre-painted cork tiles – put them above your desk and display your favourite colouring artworks or memos. You can also jazz up your special notebooks and diary with a cover made from your favourite colouring pictures.

Candy Pop cotton rug from pitterpatterhome.co.za; black and white Vixen cushion from sugarandvice.co.za



Home's new Dirty Hands Chalky Décor Paint was used for all these projects. We used the colour Snow on the tray; Mist for the placemats; Duck Egg on the dresser; and Fern for the corkboard. To order yours, turn to page 128; we'll deliver to your doorstep. 🏠

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Marian van Wyk

Tickle your fancy

Nothing says **vintage** quite like **soft pastels** and **delicious ice cream** hues.

By Marian van Wyk • Photographs supplied

On the map

Notebooks made from recycled paper (set of two) R90, hellopretty.co.za



Weigh in

Humble & Mash vintage kitchen scale R299, yuppiechef.co.za



Hold on

(Clockwise from bottom) Ceramic rose doorknobs R50 each, white porcelain doorknob R40, Paris clock doorknob R65, crystal doorknob R140, all Paint & Décor



Burn bright

Ceramic candleholders with brass detail R120 each, kammersvol.com



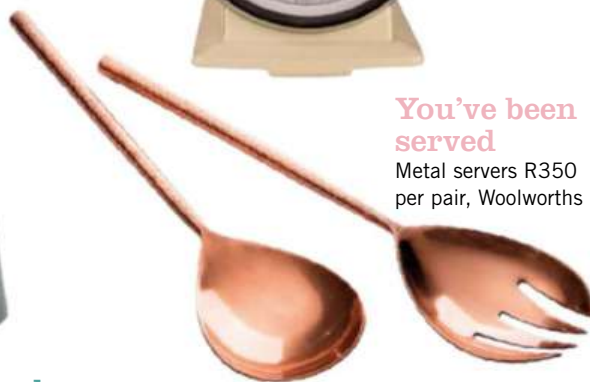
Finishing touch

Pure wool Aubusson carpet R3 900/m², Gonsenhausers Fine Rugs



You've been served

Metal servers R350 per pair, Woolworths



Love lace

Cerameek porcelain bowl with lace edge from R202, hellopretty.co.za



In storage

Large storage basket R230, Typo



On wheels

Empire drinks trolley R1 999, @home



Come to my boudoir

Boudoir chair in Rhapsody Autumn upholstery R6 174, Biggie Best



A concrete plan

Belfast concrete pendant (20402) R1 300,
The Lighting Warehouse



Suspended

Pendant (P438)
with silk shade
(50 x 20cm)
R2 474, Eurolux



Close to your chest

Copenhagen chest of drawers R14 995,
Trade Secret



Frame it

Paintable rose
frame (14 x
20cm) R95,
Paint & Décor



On time!

Zassenhaus retro
timer R229,
yuppiechef.co.za



Raise your glasses

Pressed tumblers R40 each, Woolworths



Make an entrance

Distressed half-moon
console table R5 495,
Trade Secret



His 'n hers

Guys & Dolls jars
R200 each,
kamersvol.com

Pretty in paper

In Good Company
vintage floral
paper plates
R79 (set of 12),
superbalist.com



Life's a beach

Beach girls scatter cushion
(50 x 50cm) R199,
Woolworths

Rest assured

Spode scatter
cushion (50 x
50cm) R199,
Rochester



For a TV dinner

Radius tray table R1 599,
superbalist.com

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SOME ERAS JUST DON'T AGE.

Bombato Preston tiles add the vintage craft of bevelling and cushioning to a collage of contemporary patterns. **From R690 per m²**, the design options are endless.



For more lifestyle inspiration visit italtile.co.za/bombato

WHAT'S TRENDING

UP-TOWN tiles



The natural screed look of Uptown tiles was made for an understated urban lifestyle. No maintenance, no cracks, no worries – just slick city style.
From R390 per m².

100%
MADE IN
ITALY

LEAD 445x900mm

Available in various sizes

LEAD STRUCTURE
445x900mm

WHITE 600x600mm
445x900mm

WHAT'S NEW

dCONCRETO tiles

Extra-large, concrete-look tile slabs create an effect that appears as a seamless, single expanse of surface. Size: 1200x600mm.
From R490 per m².

Rectified edges

CHARCOAL
1200x600mm

CREMA

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for every shade

victoria + albert®
volcanic limestone baths

WARNDON bath

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facebook.com/pages/italtile



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Antique-inspired lines

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LIVE BEAUTIFULLY

“Age & glasses of wine should never be counted.”



Franke Neptune Sink
NEX621
WAS R5 290 NOW
R4 590
each



Simplifies food
preparation

FRANKE

Franke Ronda
Prep Bowl
WAS R785 NOW
R699
each



Franke Kubus Sink
KBX110-45
WAS R4 890 NOW
R4 390
each

Franke Largo Sink
& Accessories
WAS R15 790 NOW
R11 990
per set



Easy to
clean

TIVOLI TAPS



Stylish &
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LIVE BEAUTIFULLY



The charm of yesteryear

A city family has created the perfect country retreat in **an old
mining house in Cullinan.**

By Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel • *Photographs* Elza Roux • *Styling* Amanda van Wyngaardt

Jackie Thomson and Wynand Wessels fell in love with this old mining house the moment they laid eyes on it. Wynand inherited the classic Volksie from his grandmother.



*Chandeliers are the perfect way to add
ambience - interior designer,
Jantlarm Vorster*





Who lives here?

OWNERS Jackie Thomson,
Wynand Wessels and their
daughter, Josie (10)

WHERE Cullinan, Gauteng



Jackie adores the black walls in the open-plan dining room and lounge; they contrast beautifully with the brilliant white frames and floors. The kitchen (opposite) is conveniently located right next door. >>

The couple found the fabric they used in the kitchen cupboard doors in a kist they discovered in the house. Jackie bought the wood-burning stove (pictured right) in Bronkhorstspuit and interior designers JanHarm Vorster and Pieter Vosloo installed it.



ten years ago, Jackie Thomson and Wynand Wessels swapped their historic Paarl home for a modern abode in Pretoria, and in the process sacrificed the old-world charm they were so fond of...

Friends encouraged the couple to visit Cullinan, an old mining town about an hour's drive from the city. The town is home to many retired miners and professionals from Pretoria and Johannesburg in search of a weekend getaway in the country.

"When we saw the old mining house with its corrugated iron exterior walls and large stoep, high pressed ceilings and Oregon pine floors, we immediately made an offer," says Wynand, a retired accountant. The couple bought it as a weekend home where they can kick back and relax with their daughter Josie (10) away from the hustle and bustle of the city. Jackie, who has a demanding job as a haematologist, relishes the tranquillity.

The house was built in 1906 and was more than likely a mine manager's residence. The walls consist of a single layer of bricks clad with corrugated iron. It has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a kitchen and a dining, TV and sitting room.

"Unfortunately, a previous owner tried to convert it into a guesthouse and demolished a wall to turn one of the bedrooms into an en-suite. They also enclosed one of the stoeps. We tried as far as possible to revert to the original style of the home," says Wynand. In addition to the construction work, the kitchen and one of the bathrooms were given a modern facelift (the previous owners renovated the other bathroom), while a guest cottage was built in the garden. The house is now as charming as it was almost a century ago – a true vintage gem. >>



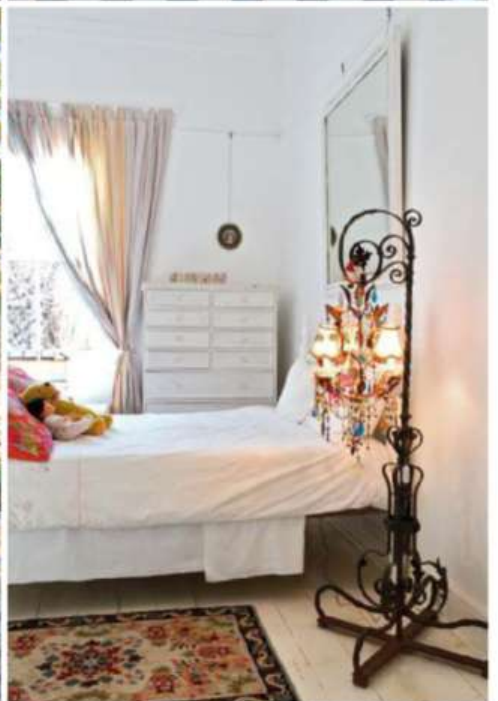
Jackie and Wynand removed the plaster from the walls, sealed the raw bricks and painted them white, creating the perfect backdrop for their décor accessories and collectibles.

Artworks in gilded and painted frames combined with vintage furniture creates a romantic old-world feel. The rose theme is repeated throughout the house.





These retro black and white tiles are the real deal.



All the beautiful décor elements in the garden come from décor shop Rust in White.



An antique crocheted Indian blanket
(*opposite centre*) divides the bathroom
and bedroom in the cottage.



*This Aubusson
rug is a collector's
dream!*



Antique furniture painted
white creates a tranquil and
romantic feel in this bedroom.

Just the right style

In Cullinan, Jackie and Wynand befriended interior designers JanHarm Vorster and Pieter Vosloo. "JanHarm is a legend in this town," says Wynand. JanHarm and Pieter own the well-known wedding venue JanHarmsgat se Agterplaas, as well as a guesthouse and décor shop called Rust in White.

So great was Jackie and Wynand's confidence in this duo that they gave them free rein: "Take the house and do with it what you will – so long as it's beautiful!"

This brief was right up JanHarm and Pieter's alley and the end result was exactly what Jackie and Wynand were after. They were banned from their home for two months, until the day that JanHarm and Pieter held a roof-wetting ceremony for the couple on their stoep – champagne and all!



**Josie, Wynand, Jackie and their
pooches Bruno and Scruffy (above)
love their home so lovingly decorated
by Pieter and JanHarm (right).**

JanHarm and Pieter's tips

- Recycle what you already have and paint, paint, paint!
- Don't be afraid to change the purpose of an item; for example, repurpose crocheted tablecloths and blankets as curtains.
- Old chandeliers make an immediate difference – see what you can find at markets and antique shops.
- Look for old Persian rugs at markets and secondhand stores.
- Fortune favours the bold... Be brave!



The previous owners brought these vintage blue bathroom fittings from America; Jackie and Wynand decided to keep them as is.



Light and white

"Our first goal was to create a tranquil white backdrop for the vintage décor," says JanHarm. Like the walls, the wooden floors are also white. They were coated with a high-gloss white paint to give the house a light and airy atmosphere, providing the perfect palette for the accessories that were to come.

"Most of the furniture is from Jackie and Wynand's previous home in Paarl; other pieces were found in Cullinan, Rosendal and at auctions," says JanHarm. "One of the key elements for a vintage look is lighting. We replaced all the lighting in the house with, among others, vintage Italian chandeliers. This immediately created an old-world charm."

And who would have thought the black walls in the dining room, kitchen and passage would work so well with the tranquil white aesthetic? "The black wall creates drama and contrasts wonderfully with the white palette," says JanHarm. Jackie loves the black on the walls so much that she has recreated this look in her Pretoria home.

A variety of pretty mirrors and artworks complete the look. Many of these pieces came from JanHarm and Pieter's home. Like many other vintage store owners, they don't mind parting with old treasures to make way for new finds. 🏠

We love what JanHarm and Pieter did. It's almost five years later and we've hardly made any décor changes.
- Wynand

CONTACT AND STOCKIST

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A home away from home

An old stone house in Normandy is where **paint expert Annie Sloan** and her family like to unwind; in this exclusive interview, she opens her holiday haven to us.

By Marita van der Vyver • Photographs Christopher Drake



*athomewith...
Exclusive!*

The staircase, with each riser painted a different colour, is typical of Annie's playful style. Adjoining it is the main bathroom, which is still a "work in progress".

The impressive fireplace in the open-plan living room and kitchen (opposite) was one of the first features the family restored. They also removed the ceiling to expose the original beams and painted them in unexpected shades of light-blue and light-green. The raffia rug in front of the fireplace was coated with Annie Sloan paint and even the scatters on the chairs were decorated with a few stripes.



She's a paint expert and her international business is sometimes described as an empire, but Annie Sloan's holiday home in France on the outskirts of Villebaudon is anything but a pretentious palace or chic château.

This simple stone house in the countryside – purchased a quarter-century ago for a mere 15 000 British pounds – is where Annie and her husband David have spent many happy summer months with their three sons. These days there's also a first grandchild who can enjoy the old rope-and-plank swing hanging from a tree behind the house.

Their home welcomes you the minute you step over the threshold and is as stylishly and comfortably decorated as you would expect from an author of more than 20 books on décor and decorative painting techniques. But above all, it's a cosy home for a close-knit family who have accomplished the seemingly impossible: spending holidays *and* their working hours together.

David helps Annie to manage the business from their home and headquarters in Oxford, England; her middle son Felix, who studied graphic art, and his British-Canadian wife Lizzy also work in the family business.

Felix will never forget his first impressions of the old house. As a small boy, he was already asleep when they arrived that first evening in the dark. When he awoke the next morning, he was immediately fascinated by the building, the wonderful rural environment and everything he saw outdoors. To this day, he and his two brothers – the oldest a teacher in Kazakhstan, the youngest a musician – like to relax there whenever they get the chance.

A work in progress

"Even though we've owned this place for 25 years, it remains a work in progress," explains Annie, as she shows us the bathroom which is still only semi-refurbished. "Because in summer one really doesn't want to work on a house..." For years, they simply "removed" elements that had been added to the 18th century farmhouse, such as false ceilings and lime-green walls.

Annie wanted to keep the exterior simple and authentic, so they didn't replace the old-fashioned windows with modern double glazing. However, on the inside they've installed underfloor heating and restored the original stone fireplace in the living room so that in winter they can keep a roaring fire on the go. This is just one example of the fine balance between old-fashioned aesthetics and modern conveniences that you'll find throughout the house.

Annie is decorating her home slowly, a room at a time, using furniture, paintings and collectibles she has picked up at French flea markets or *brocantes* – it is, after all, a French house and she wants to fill it with French items. And in the process, she uses her artistic skill and Annie Sloan paint to transform them into unique pieces.

New ideas

Normandy is where Annie heads in-between her travels around the world, holding paint workshops and marketing her books. It's where she seeks peace and quiet to dream up new ideas. She recently returned from her first trip to Japan and plans to soon expand to the United Arab Emirates.

Her love of travel and fearlessness in the face of new challenges were no doubt inherited. Annie has a Cuban grandfather, a Scottish father who worked as a journalist in Australia and later farmed in England, and a mother who comes from Fiji. She was born in Australia and spent part of her youth in the British countryside before obtaining a Master's degree in Fine Arts at the University of Reading.

Yet she never really felt at home in the "sometimes quite awful" art world. Even as a student in the seventies, Annie was more interested than her fellow students in what her surroundings should look like. She would, for example, take an unsightly rug and turn it upside down on the floor – the kind of perverse ingenuity that has become a hallmark of her décor style.



The historic home might look dated, but Annie is systematically redecorating the interior and making it extremely comfortable.



Annie pushes her two-year-old granddaughter Willow on the rope swing.



Even the tassels of the rope swing were dipped in Annie Sloan paint.



The white plates and other collectibles displayed on the shelves were all discovered at French flea markets.

The dining room, with its old stone floor, leads out from the living room. The chairs have been painted in various shades of blue and green. A stencil design adorns the walls.



Even a piano takes on a bright hue in Annie's house! In this music and reading corner, the scatter on the chair was given a stripe of yellow Annie Sloan paint. The alcove with its timber edging serves as a bookshelf.



Clockwise from top left The second bedroom is a perfect example of Annie's bold spirit – she painted an old bed grass-green to create a striking focal point and decorated the curtains with Annie Sloan paint; the main bedroom, previously a loft in which chickens were kept, is now an elegant, tranquil space in shades of light-blue and dove-grey; the raw wood top of the dining table boasts one of Annie's new stencil designs. The prints and frames adorning the walls throughout the house, as well as the frame of the large mirror in the dining room, were all flea market finds; a staircase leads from the dining room to the upper floor. >>





The ever present paintbrushes find a home on this raw wood pinboard in Annie's studio (above). The old frames and faded pictures of the neighbouring town of Granville were discovered at markets in the area, as were the map of French colonial Africa and the two weathered pitchers (below right).

Weekend retreat

Because the Normandy coast lies within easy reach of England, the family often spends weekends there. "On the Friday night, we sleep on the ferry that transports us across the English Channel and on Saturday morning we're eating breakfast in our home in France!" says Annie.

As with any French home, food plays an important role – the long table, comfortable chairs and cosy atmosphere in the dining room are all testimony to this. The next step in the ongoing restoration process is to relocate the open-plan kitchen and renovate it.

"My dad always said it doesn't matter where in the house you are, you should always be able to see something beautiful." Annie Sloan embodies this simple philosophy in her work and in her homes. Wherever you find yourself in her French home – whether seated on an old turquoise chair with its multi-coloured cushion that belonged to her mother, in a Victorian bath painted a coppery colour, or at the top of the stairs next to a chest of drawers on which the famous first sentence of James Joyce's novel *Ulysses* is inscribed – you'll see something so beautiful that you won't be able to tear your eyes away. 🏠



Annie in her studio (above). Each of the more than 1 000 retailers where her products are sold – including more than 70 in South Africa – are personally selected by Annie and her agents.



Old wooden doors and shutters add interest to the bathroom.





All nature is but art.

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An early French kitchen table divides the open-plan living and dining areas. Exposed trusses complement the rustic barn-like style of the home and the wooden floors were reclaimed from a factory.



Back to my roots...

Filled with vintage treasures and auction finds, **a farm-style home** outside Port Elizabeth ticks all the boxes when it comes to comfort and family values.

By Marian van Wyk • Photographs Francois Oberholster





hen it came to settling down, Dee and Joel Malkinson knew exactly what they wanted: a rustic farm-style family home reminiscent of a barn with a long sociable verandah. And, of course, plenty of space for their two sons and their family of “fur children”, as Dee refers to her four horses and rescue animals including seven dogs, three cats, and a pony.

As the owner of vintage homeware shop Gently Worn, Dee loves pieces rich in history and her own home reflects her warm personality and a strong connection to her roots. “Farm life is in my blood. As a child, I spent most weekends and holidays on my grandparents’ farms. I’ve always known that this is where I’m meant to be,” she says. >>



Victoria (left) is one of seven rescue dogs. Dee’s compassion for animals was inherited from her Karoo *ouma*: “I watched her spend hours nursing orphaned lambs and bottle-feeding injured blue duikers.”



Dee wanted a cosy, uncomplicated and practical kitchen. Her uncle found the Aga stove on a farm near Grahamstown.



*I keep nothing for special occasions; I use all my vintage crockery and cutlery.
If you can't use it, pass it on to someone who can.*



Who lives here?

OWNERS Dee and Joel Malkinson and their sons, Joshua (13) and Samuel (10).
WHERE A smallholding outside Port Elizabeth, close to Sardinia Bay.

The Malkinsons use their covered stoep almost daily and enjoy having al fresco dinners – often a braai – at their 12-seater table. Dee changes her displays regularly; an old cast iron trellis on the server behind the table forms the backdrop to her collectibles.

In the beginning...

The Malkinsons bought their five-hectare smallholding in 2008, but had already started making plans several years before. "We took this childlike drawing to a draughtsman and started building that same year," Dee explains.

"There was only a Wendy house and dense indigenous bush, and since the property is located within the Lovemore Park Nature Conservancy, we had to get permission to clear some of it. We came across an old labourer's cottage, which we converted into stables for our horses and ponies."

Although the house was completed within five months, there was a dangerously close call at the same time that the roof trusses went up: "We used the bush we were removing to level a big hole on our land," Dee recalls. "One day when I popped in to check on progress, this dried bush had gone up in flames. I was horrified; it was horribly close to our dream home! Needless to say, the house survived."

Today, the only flames on the property are those in their Aga stove, which keeps the family warm and cosy in winter.



When Dee and Joel built their house, they removed plenty of alien vegetation. About 80% of the five-hectare property is still untouched indigenous bush. A keen gardener, Dee always has something growing in her potting shed (top left). Sick plants also come here to recover.

Family time As a shop owner and restaurateur respectively, Dee and Joel work most weekends – so their family time at home is precious. "Weekends are shut down time for us," Dee says. And when the boys are busy, you're likely to find Dee in her potting shed or the nature reserve with her horses. But most often, she's happily relaxing on the verandah. "Every time I put my feet up, I realise how fortunate I am to live here."

I like a pale interior with subtle splashes of colour. I find it allows my special pieces to stand out. At the same time, chipped and peeling paint tells a story of the colour used in its previous life. – Dee



The bench in this attractive pause area between the kitchen and scullery was bought at auction.



Open shelving in the kitchen allows for easy access and pretty displays.



Dee's collection of vintage portraits adorns the dividing wall between the scullery and the living area.



*To me, flowers are soul food.
They create a happy feel in a
room - even if it's just simple
greenery from your garden.
- Dee*



The décor

With the exception of a few soft furnishings, Dee doesn't own a single piece of new furniture. "Some were gifts from clients, others are auction or junk shop finds discovered on road trips for Gently Worn."

"I love finding something that makes me smile. It might not have a value, but its brokenness attracts me. I wonder about who slept on my vintage ticking pillows and who wore the vintage leather boots."

Dee describes her décor style as "industrial country" and says she's drawn to anything with texture or patina. "I have a soft spot for cement, weathered wood, worn leather, cast iron and French linen."

While she likes to make everything around her beautiful, comfortable and easy living comes first. "Whenever I'm putting together a 'story' in the house, the trajectory of the next object to come flying through the lounge is taken into account," she laughs, referring playfully to her two young sons.

"I have a restless eye. I'm always scouting for pieces for my shop and home – they're both an extension of who I am. I often take new pieces home for a week or two to enjoy them, knowing I will have to let them go. I've had to become disciplined when it comes to what I can keep." 🏠



Dee's décor tips

- Keep your bigger furniture pieces neutral and add colour and patterns in soft furnishings such as scatters, throws and rugs.
- If a piece speaks to you, buy it. And don't be afraid to repurpose it; an entrance hall table can also be a kitchen island or a dressing table! There are no rules, as long as it's functional and it makes you happy.



A vintage cast iron table from England (*above*) serves as a dressing table in Dee and Joel's en-suite bathroom; Dee found the iron washstand on her travels. A simple iron table with a marble top (*left*) serves as a vanity in another bathroom.

Dee has created a tranquil atmosphere in the main bedroom (*opposite*). The chandelier was salvaged from a rebuild at a friend's house and the cast iron table at the foot of the bed is a vintage piece from England.

STOCKIST Gently Worn 079 498 0697, [facebook.com/GentlyWorn](https://www.facebook.com/GentlyWorn)

Splash out!

Statement bathrooms are making a comeback – go on, spoil yourself...

By Simone Borchering and Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel
Photographs Francois Oberholster • Additional styling Shelly Bergh

#1 Vintage dream

Longing for a bit of romance? Take inspiration from a gorgeous Victorian-style bathroom, so designed to reflect the history of this heritage home. Introduce charming vintage elements, combining the old with the new. The effect on the wall was achieved by covering a section in floral wallpaper, installing a dado rail and painting the remaining area in a glossy duck-egg blue. The hanging light is a 1920s piece that was discovered in a vintage furniture store.

#2 *Black magic*

Shany van den Berg of Stellenbosch wasn't happy with her bathroom: it was rather small, the layout was awkward with an alcove in one wall, and it was quite dark as it didn't get a lot of natural light during the day.

As a complete renovation wasn't on the cards, Shany decided to get creative with paint and décor. She painted the floor in Fired Earth's Trendy Floors in the colour Dynamo (available at Builders) and painted the walls white for a light and airy feel.

A narrow wall-hung cupboard next to the bath and floating shelves provide extra storage, while a tall wooden cupboard works beautifully in the corner. Various artworks and a springbok skin sewn into a cloverleaf rug give this bathroom plenty of personality.

Shany accentuated the alcove by painting it midnight black.

Page over for more bathroom problems and solutions...

#3 *French connection*

The problem

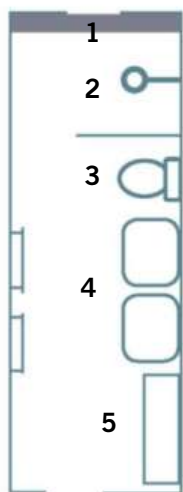
Shannon and Johan Nel purchased their elegant Durbanville home on auction in 1978 with a bathroom typical of that era – green and brown tiles dominated what quickly became a very dated look. A second bathroom – more a long, narrow corridor with all the fixtures (shower, bath, toilet, basin) arranged in a row along the wall – was even more problematic. “Needless to say, it was not to our taste,” laughs Shannon.

The solution

With the help of Salome Gunter Interiors, the couple redesigned the second bathroom with a shower only so that it wouldn't feel so cramped. “Salome has been involved since we started with the renovations in 2007. She understands us so well and we trust her implicitly,” says Shannon.

The couple wanted the new bathroom to reflect the aesthetic in the rest of their home and remain true to its heritage features, so they carefully selected classic fittings that will stand the test of time.

Ever-stylish checkerboard tiles, for example, were laid in such a way that they make the room appear wider. “The wall tiles remind me of the metro in Paris, our favourite city,” says Shannon, who loves to stock up on little luxuries from L'Occitan, Victorian Bathrooms and Jo-Malone.



Floor plan

- 1 Black granite window ledge
- 2 Shower with glass panel
- 3 Toilet
- 4 Basins with chrome stands and mirrors
- 5 Medicine cabinet



Fine finishes

Basins, taps, shower fittings and wall tiles Victorian Bathrooms
Floor tiles Quadrata **Lighting** Custom-made wall sconces and chandelier from Smileys at Home **Mirrors** Sofaworx
Cupboard Weylandts **Shower glass** Glasfit **Towel rails, soap dishes and toothpaste-holders** Cottonwood Trading Company



#4 A Moroccan touch



The problem

This tranquil space was previously an awkward square bathroom covered in white tiles – from top to toe! Homeowner Kundra Bowley, owner of Moroccan Warehouse, was not a fan: “I’m definitely not a modern person; I’ll always be drawn to patterns and colour.”

The solution

When Kundra extended her Bloubergstrand home by about 5m, she also made the bathroom bigger with a more substantial built-in vanity and spacious shower.

This was her chance to create a style all her own. “I kept it simple with cement screed then added Moroccan elements here and there, like the beautiful lantern and tiles in the shower,” she explains.

Kundra has been importing handmade tiles from Morocco for years now. “The more tiles I got, the more I fell in love with them – now I get containers full of different designs, patterns and colours. Every time I go to Morocco, I’m inspired by how they effortlessly combine these tiles. It changes a space instantly.” >>

Fine finishes

Taps Isca Kastoria **Basin** Duravit

Bath Kundra kept her old Libra bath

Toilet Geberit **Showerhead** Isca Dahlia

Wall, counter and floor finishes Midas

Pandomo **Light fitting** Lantern from

Moroccan Warehouse **Mirror** Made by

Neville from Woodwinds **Grass mat** from

Morocco **Towels** Sarongs bought on travels

Terracotta pot Moroccan Warehouse

Decorative elements Kundra picked up

the sea pumpkins on the beach; green

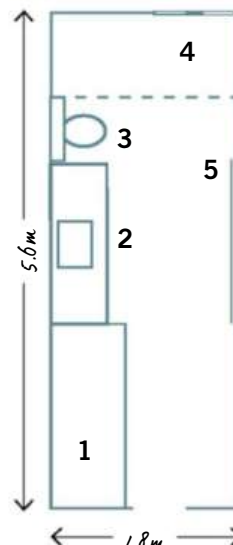
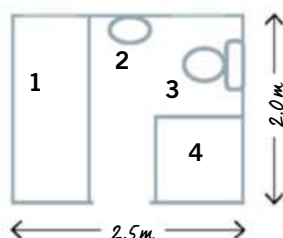
bowls from the famous Tamgrout Pottery

in Morocco

Floor plan, before

- 1 Bath 2 Basin
- 3 Toilet 4 Shower

The bathroom became narrower but longer.



Floor plan, after

- 1 Bath
- 2 Basin
- 3 Toilet
- 4 Shower
- 5 Towel rail

The 0.7m width 'lost' became part of the bedroom next door.

SIZE
10m²

*The bathroom
basically doubled
in size! - Kundra*

#5 *Wide open*

The problem

Ancois and Jacques Basson's Oranjezicht home in Cape Town became too cramped for them and their daughters, Ella (11) and Annie (9).

The plan was to add on a second floor, including a main bedroom with an en-suite bathroom. To make the most of the impressive sea view and cityscape, the couple opted for an open space, rather than create a new bathroom behind closed doors. Architect Hein Wolvaardt was the man for the job.

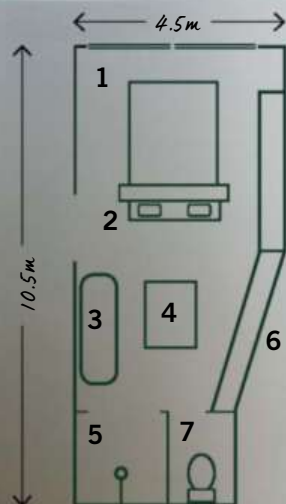
The solution

"The open-plan room is spacious and light with an easy flow between the bed and bathroom area," explains Ancois. A headboard serves as a divider – a popular trend at the moment. "I don't like headboards in general, but it's a great solution in this instance."

The rest of the house boasts wooden cladding for a Scandinavian feel, and the Bassons decided on a clean palette and washroom look in their new bedroom and bathroom. "We opted for clean lines and bold sanitary ware. We love the metro tiles, large shower and simple lines of the bath. We also went for accessories in blue and grey."

In summer, the shower door opens to the outdoors with jarrah wood louvres for privacy. The chest of drawers in the bathroom is on castors, so it's really easy to move around. "We love our bathroom – we wouldn't change a thing!" says Ancois.

SIZE
19.5m²



Floor plan

- 1 Main bedroom
- 2 Basins
- 3 Bath
- 4 Island
- 5 Shower
- 6 Wardrobes
- 7 Toilet



Fine finishes

Floor Oak with natural oiled finish (15mm engineered) from Albert Carpets

Wall tiles Douglas Jones bevelled white gloss metro wall tiles from Italtile

Shower floor Douglas Jones black and white mosaic from Italtile

Cupboards and drawers

White Duco-sprayed Supawood with meranti wooden frame and Italian marble top

Basin shelves and top

Solid oak and Italian marble

Bath Omina matte white from Boutique Baths at Classic Trading

Heated towel rail

Jeeves, Spartan 6

Towel hooks

Bathroom Butler

Basins Vero 60 from Classic Trading

Shower rose Deca Aquamax 35cm (ceiling-mounted) from Womag

Lights Pendants from Arora Lights

Shower door Glasshopper >>

The shower door seals completely to prevent water from splashing onto the wooden floors. The toilet is situated to the left of the shower and behind a sandblasted glass door for privacy.





Soak it up

Monticarlo bath with silver feet
R9 335, Bathroom Bizarre

Cool coral

Fringed hammam towel
R299, Woolworths

Light the way

Frosted paisley painted
pillar candle in rose
R130, Poetry



Mirror mirror

Sixties-style bronze mirror
R1 099, @home

Tall order

Cupboard with 12 shelves
(185 x 54 x 30cm)
R4 700, Clive Biden

Let's go shopping!

Whatever your style, create the ultimate sanctuary with these bathroom beauties.

By Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel

Inside story

Melange basket R649,
Woolworths

Splash splash

Messina basin
and pedestal
R2 495 (for the
set), Bathroom
Bizarre



Keep it clean

Kalahari utility basket R499.99,
MRP Home

Bin it

Retro pedal bin R190,
Woolworths

Shower power

Hansgrohe Crometta 100 Vario hand shower
R316, bathroom suppliers



Get a grip

Wood and metal hooks R140 each, Pedersen + Lennard



Fit for a king

Grey metal crown hook R39, Biggie Best

Show it off

French Flair shelf (900 x 200 x 40mm) R1 008, Milestone Kitchens



Make a saving!

Spindel specialist laundry dryer R2 199, furniture stores



Take a bath

Aquarius Prague freestanding tub R7 499, Italtile



Four in one

Heritage Mix tile (one tile that looks like four; 33.15 x 33.15cm) R398 each, Womag



Waterproof!

Daniella range vinyl wallpaper (53cm x 10m roll) R980, wallpaperinn.co.za



Back to nature

Midi two-spike orchid R175, Woolworths



Soft touch

Yum Lotus and Dragonfruit Body Silk R87, Charlotte Rhys



Just white

Moroccan bathroom storage shelf R1 799, @home livingospace



Dish the dirt

Bird scroll soap dish R69.99, MRP Home



Join the party!

It's back to the Winelands for our *Fix it with Flair* 2015 Gala Event – book now so you don't miss out!



Our Top 5 in this year's competition have been selected (*see overleaf*) and the countdown to the announcement of our 2015 winner has officially begun.

This year, the world-renowned Spier Wine Farm outside Stellenbosch will be hosting our prestigious event – and you're invited! Dating back to 1692, Spier is one of the oldest wine farms in South Africa and it's the perfect venue for our Gala Event. Not only does Spier produce award-winning wines that can be paired with the delicious food grown on the farm or on neighbouring farms, it also boasts a four-star hotel and conference facilities set in tranquil surroundings.

Join us for a fabulous brunch at Spier and enjoy the entertainment provided by musical ensemble Die Jaloersbokkies, with well-known RSG radio presenter Haidee Muller as your host for the morning.

Make sure your name is on our VIP list for this exciting event at which we will be announcing the winners of the competition – the newly-crowned Renovator of the Year will walk off with R30 000 in product vouchers from Pennypinchers Timbercity.

Book your seat now, dress with flair and most importantly – save the date!

Saturday
14 November at
Spier Wine Farm
on the R310 outside
Stellenbosch at
09:30 for
10:00 – 14:00.

1692
Spier



Die Jaloersbokkies



Haidee Muller

TO BOOK

Call Naquita Hendricks on 021 408 3848 or email naquita.hendricks@media24.com with 'Fixit' in the subject line; bookings are limited and close on Monday 2 November, 2015.

COST

Tickets are R395 each and include the morning's talks and demonstrations, entertainment, brunch, the latest issue of *Home* and *Home Renovations*, plus a beautiful goodie bag filled with more surprises.

MEET OUR JUDGES

From left: Wicus Pretorius, *Tuis!Home* Editor; Johan Spies, Head of Marketing at Steinbuild; Deon de Goede, DIY expert at *Tuis!Home*



TERMS & CONDITIONS No bookings will be confirmed without payment. Payment must be received within 48 hours of booking. A 50% cancellation fee will apply to cancellations made up to one week prior to the event date; no refunds will be payable on cancellations made less than one week prior to the event date.



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Booking Details: reservations@spier.co.za or 021 809 1100. Quote 'HOME' when making your booking.

Accommodation is in a Signature Room at Spier Hotel. Children under 12 stay free when sharing with 2 adults (max 2 children). Children over 12 stay in their own room (up to 2 children). From R1183 per room subject to availability.

Terms & Conditions: View general T's & C's on www.spier.co.za.

Additional room starts from R1183 per room, subject to availability. Includes full English breakfast.

Accommodation is in a Signature Room at Spier Hotel. This package is not available from 24 December – 4 January.

1692
Spier

Our Top 5!

(in no particular order)

For more pics of these inspiring renovation projects, go to fixit.dailyfix.co.za.

www.dailyfix.co.za



WHO Sharon McNally and Charles Raubenheimer
WHERE Mowbray, Cape Town
WHAT Roof space converted into a loft with bedroom, kitchenette and bathroom.
COST R84 344



WHO Anton and Julie Oosthuizen
WHERE Greyton, Western Cape
WHAT Entire house
COST R66 300



WHO Elzaan and Arno de Wit
WHERE Welgemoed, Cape Town
WHAT Bathroom
COST R19 000



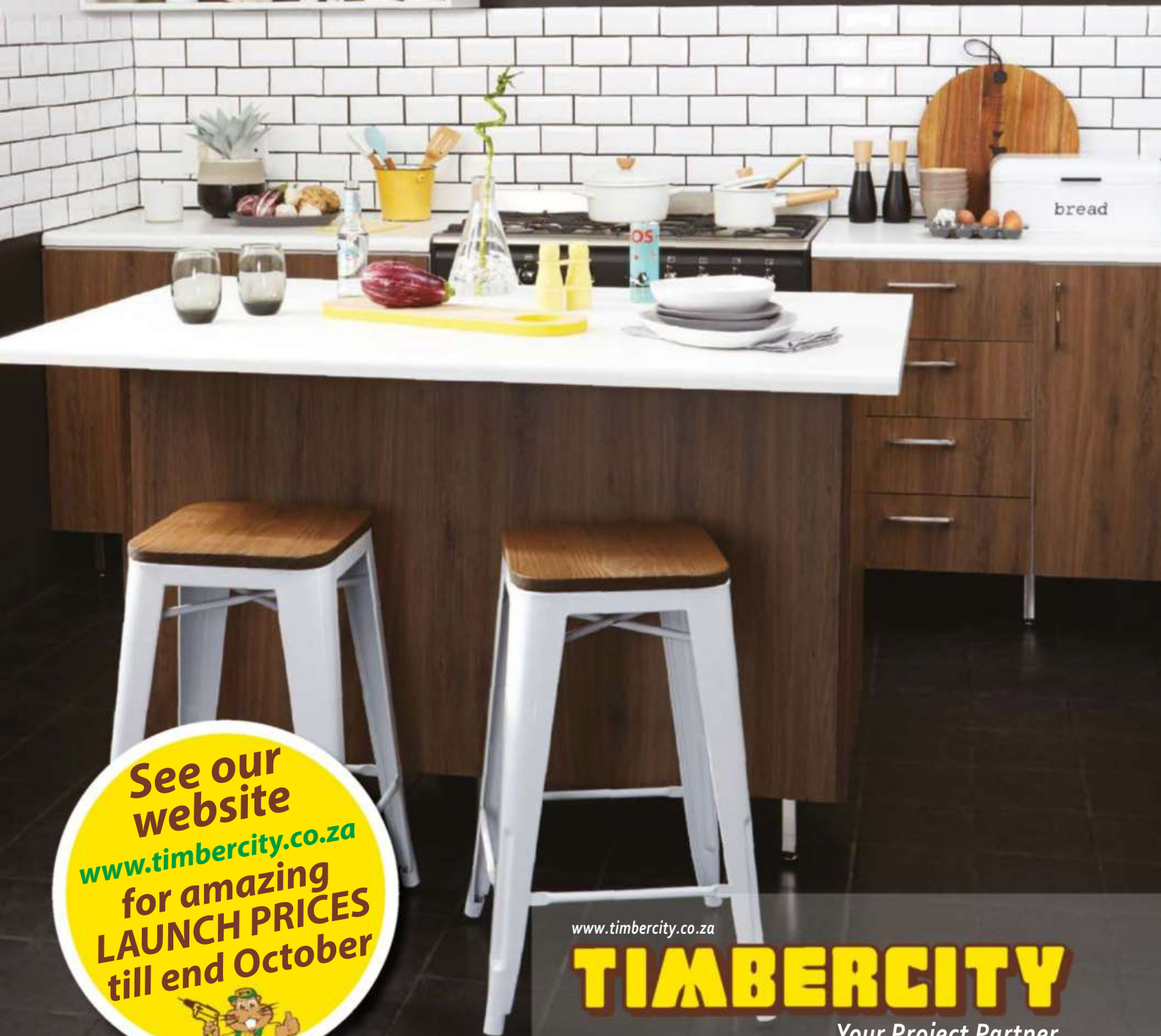
WHO Terence and Noelene Botha
WHERE Noordhoek, Cape Town
WHAT Entire house after severe fire damage.
COST R350 000



WHO Yolanda Cilliers and Oostewald Bekker
WHERE Boston, Cape Town
WHAT Entire house
COST R300 000 🏠



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the kitchen you've always wanted*



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TIMBERCITY

Your Project Partner



During the month of February we will be all about Home and Food, and you can take your pick from various events and happenings hosted by your favourite magazines in Gauteng and Cape Town.

That's right:

- 30 days of food & drink
- 30 days of ideas & inspiration
- 30 days of celebration & celebrities
- 30 days of giveaways & promotions
- 30 days of shopping & discounts

The February countdown culminates in a fabulous 30 Days of Home + Food live weekend and you are invited to come and meet your favourite magazine team and experience the pages of our magazines coming to life in front of your very eyes.

buy your tickets now!

R150 per person for either a morning or afternoon session
www.30days.co.za

INTRODUCING

30 DAYS of HOME + FOOD

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

oome

Friday 4 March 2016
 – Sunday 6 March 2016
 Gallagher Convention Centre,
 Midrand



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 idees|ideas Kuier LOSE IT!
 Lééf **Move!** **KOS** tuis|home

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the people

- Bobby & Karlien van Jaarsveld
- Suzelle DIY
- Marc Lottering
- Pete Goffe-Wood
- Anele Mdoda
- Vuyo Dabula
- Cass Abrahams
- Shaleen Surtie-Richards
- Rebecca Malope
- Deon DIY

the line-up

- Cooking demos with your favourite food eds and celebs
- Style sessions and trend talks
- Craft and DIY
- Meet the people behind your favourite magazines in their reader lounges
- Shop the show at the curated *Ideas* trunk show, the cooks and books stand and various other pop-up event pods
- Indulge in gourmet food
- Stock up on LCHF products at the banting market
- Sip a glass of MCC at the Graham Beck Wine Bar
- Gift bag for each reader

It's a celebration!

Join us for the exciting 30 Days of Home + Food weekend for plenty of good food, beautiful décor and, of course, *Home's* dazzling DIY demos.

Don't delay! Be sure to book a seat at *Home's* DIY demonstrations at our new lifestyle event: 30 Days of Home + Food.

Our DIY guru Deon de Goede will be joining forces with the inimitable Marc Lottering to teach you a thing or two with a power tool. They're handy and hilarious – so be prepared to learn and laugh while watching them create an awesome project in just 30 minutes!

Best of all? Once you've bought your ticket for the expo at just R150, these sessions are all free!

- Catch them daily at 10:00 and 15:30.

Kick back and relax

Need to recharge your batteries? Then make yourself comfortable in our cosy lounge and hang out with *Home's* editor, Wicus Pretorius, and meet Deon.

And why not take a picture with funny guy Marc?

Special events

In the build-up to the weekend, we're planning special reader events all over South Africa in February next year. Details to be announced in subsequent issues of *Home*.

Get your tickets online.
Go to 30days.co.za
and join in the fun.



Deon de Goede



Marc Lottering



Wicus Pretorius



Plant a seed...

By Deon de Goede • Photographs Francois Oberholster • Styling Marian van Wyk



Deon de Goede

QUICK PROJECT GUIDE

Hard labour 3/10

Skill level 3/10

Time needed ± 2 hours

Finished size ± 1 000 (H) x
1 000 (W) x 400mm (D)

Do it yourself for less than
R60: screws, sandpaper,
Weed-Gard (pallets excluded)

Shopping list

- pallet wood (± 20 x 90mm) cut to:
eighteen 1 000mm lengths
four 210mm lengths
eight 400mm lengths
five 1 040mm lengths
- pallet support beams
(± 40 x 75mm) cut to:
three 350mm lengths
- one hundred and twenty
6mm x 40mm chipboard screws
- 120-grit sandpaper
- 1.5m Weed-Gard weed control
fabric (available from Mango Moon)

Tools

- cordless drill and 3mm drill bit
- pencil
- jigsaw
- tape measure
- 16mm spade bit
- tri-square
- staple gun
- sharp knife

Build this planter box and
reduce trips to the grocery store
with your own supply of
homegrown herbs.

Get started...



1 Base Screw three 350mm support beams across four 1 000mm planks – one on each end and one in the middle.



2 Front and back Place three 1 000mm planks next to each other and screw a 210mm plank at right angles across each end so that there's a 20mm clearance on one side – this is where the base must fit. Now screw the front and back to the base. >>



Main image: Cushion in Wild Berry Acacia fabric from HerteX; small Keira watering can about R150 at garden centres countrywide or Mango Moon Trading; large watering can, garden tools and plants from Cape Garden Centre; location: HerteX

Summer Living

The Woodoc Way

Woodoc Water-Borne DECK - the modern sealer for outdoor decking and exterior woodwork. High in UV-absorbers and weather-resistant it provides an extremely attractive finish. Quick drying, it is easy to apply and easy to maintain.

Available in natural wood colours: Oak - Mahogany - Teak - Imbuia and also Clear.

Woodoc Water-Borne Plus-Life™ PRIMER: Used as primer for Woodoc Water-Borne DECK it will significantly extend the life of the surface finish. Particularly in severe exposure conditions.



Woodoc Customer Care: For friendly, personal assistance and advice, phone Toll-Free 0800 411 200, during office hours. www.woodoc.com





3 Short sides Turn the structure upside down and screw three 400mm planks across each open end to complete the box.



4 Legs Screw two 1 000mm planks at each corner of the box. **Tip** First screw the planks to the short sides, and then those to the front and back.

Project notes

- Remember to drill pilot holes – it prevents the wood from splintering.
- Look out for old pallets at markets or greengrocers – it's the 'green' thing to do and as a bonus, they're affordable.



5 Shelf Measure and mark 200mm from the bottom of the legs and screw a 400mm plank beneath this mark, on either side, to form the shelf. Stand the box upright, space three 1 040mm planks across the struts and screw together. Complete the front and back of the box by placing the remaining two 1 040mm planks underneath and screwing them together. Sand the whole box lightly.

Deon says It makes your task so much easier if you sand the planks lightly beforehand.



6 Lining Using the 16mm spade bit, drill a few holes in the bottom of the box to allow water to drain out. Line the box with the Weed-Gard; secure it with the staple gun. Trim the excess Weed-Gard with a sharp knife. 🏠

STOCKISTS AND CONTACTS Cape Boards
Mickey Schwarz 021 981 0152, capeboards.co.za
Cape Garden Centre 021 988 4137, capegardencentre.co.za
Deon de Goede 084 589 5026, deondmc@gmail.com
Hertex 0860 437 839, hertex.co.za
Mango Moon Trading 031 766 3823, mangomooncc.co.za

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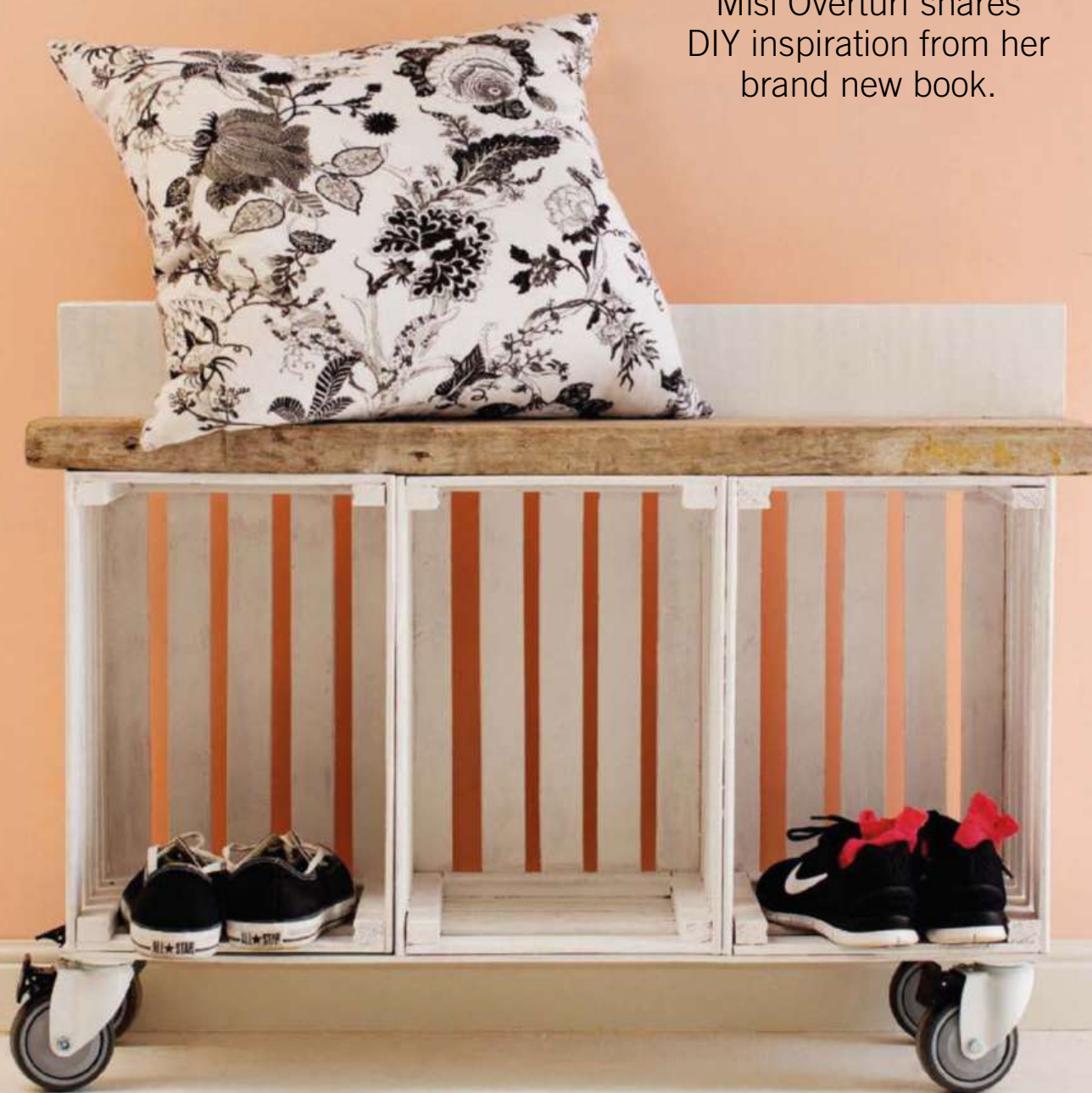


On the upcycle



Misi Overturf

Creative consultant Misi Overturf shares DIY inspiration from her brand new book.





Misi shows us how to combine three pine crates with an old piece of scaffolding to create a versatile, mobile storage unit.

What you need

- three pine crates
- scaffolding plank
- 12mm Supawood (cut to size to cover the bases of the three crates when they stand upright next to each other)
- wood primer
- white water-based paint
- sponge roller
- medium-sized paintbrush
- panel pins
- hammer
- wood glue
- clamps
- wood screws
- large metal castors

What to do

1 Position the crates upright, side by side. Glue the three crates together and clamp them. Leave to set.

2 Smooth the edges of the Supawood using a sander.

3 Paint the Supawood with primer and leave to dry.

4 Apply two coats of white paint to the Supawood. Do the same with the crates.

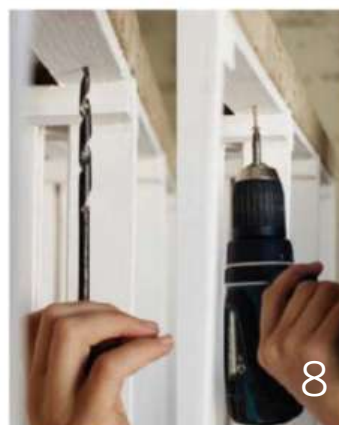
5 Once dry, fix the Supawood base to the bottom of the crates using panel pins.

6 Spread wood glue on the top slats of the crates and position the weathered scaffolding plank on top to form a seat.

7 The plank was slightly too short, so an extra piece of scaffolding was used to provide a little back board, placed upright and painted white.

8 Prepare pilot holes in the upper slats of the crates and secure the scaffolding seat to the crates using screws.

9 To finish the unit off, attach the castors to the base using screws and a screwdriver. 🏠



WIN! FIVE lucky readers will each win a copy of *50 Upcycling Projects: From Trash to Treasure* (Human & Rousseau; R325) by Misi Overturf. To enter, SMS the keyword UPCYCLING followed by your name, email and postal address to 44284 before 31 October 2015 (each SMS costs R1.50). Competition rules on page 128.

Cool Colours for a HOT SUMMER

reversible

Get 2 looks in 1 by simply turning over this duvet cover – now that's what we call great value!



SEASIDE DESIGN

Reversible Polycotton
Duvet Cover Set

Single

R129⁹⁹

3/4 **169.99** | Double **209.99** | Queen **239.99** | King **279.99**

1. 2 Pack Polycotton Pillowcases **R49.99**

2. Lamp & Shade Set **R79.99**

3. Reversible Polycotton Comforter Set (3/4) **R229.99**

4. Flannel Blanket 180 x 200cm **R219.99**

5. Quilted Diamond Continental Pillowcase (each) **R69.99**

6. Embossed Continental Pillowcase (each) **R59.99**

**7. Reversible Polycotton
Duvet Cover Set**

Single

R129⁹⁹

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**8. Embellished
Duvet Cover Set**

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Ask the experts

Looking for solutions for practical outdoor lighting? Keen to try out a colour-wash technique? You ask – and we'll find the answer.

Email your queries to Beatrice at
experts@homemag.co.za

Compiled by Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel

Go for a colour-wash

Yvette ter Wolbeek of Pretoria writes

I saw the most beautiful colour-wash technique in grey on page 100 of *Home Paint It*. How was it done and what colour was used as a base coat?



→ **Dulux brand manager
Nonkululeko Mccunu replies**

When attempting colour-wash techniques, ensure that you have ample time to achieve the perfect finish. You can get the look in three easy steps:

1 Prepare your walls

Ensure that the surface area you're painting is correctly prepared: first clean the walls thoroughly with Dulux Sugar Soap and wipe them down with a damp cloth. We suggest that you apply a primer before you paint. Mask key areas such as the ceiling and skirtings; it's preferable to use a canvas drop sheet as an alternative to plastic as it stays in place and any spills are absorbed. It's a good idea to wear disposable gloves to protect your hands.

Tip Choose a base coat colour that's lighter than your wash technique colour to achieve the desired effect; we suggest using Dulux Luxurious Silk Dusted Moss 2.

2 Prepare the colour-wash mixture

Mix one part scumble glaze with one part Dulux Luxurious Silk (choose a colour that's darker than your base coat; we recommend Dulux Dusted Moss 1) and one part water. You can increase your ratio of scumble glaze to achieve a translucent effect.

The purpose of the scumble glaze is to keep the paint 'elastic', allowing you to 'move the paint around' until you achieve the desired finish. It's important to use up all of the mixture as it has a limited shelf life.

Tip To reduce your trips up and down the ladder when painting, prepare your



colour-wash mixture in a clean and lightweight 5L container that can also serve as a painting tray.

3 Apply the colour-wash mixture

Using an appropriate roller, apply the base coat first. Once dry, apply the colour-wash mixture in a circular motion and a downward direction, starting from the top

and working your way down the wall, using a lint-free mutton cloth or recycled T-shirt. A wetter cloth and increased pressure will result in a much darker finish.

Apply a second coat of colour-wash for an even finish; you may also need to use a paintbrush for hard-to-reach edges.

CONTACT dulux.co.za

Every effort is made to answer all questions, but unfortunately we cannot answer every question personally. *Home* reserves the right to edit questions for publication.

Q: Where can I find a shelf like the one on page 26 of your June 2015 issue?

– Brechta Koegeleberg

A: The homeowner used a scaffolding plank (buy one from a demolition site or a hardware store) and placed it on brackets bought from Plan B Vintage in Durbanville (082 491 3677, planbphotography.co.za).



Quick questions

Q: Where can I find vintage photos like the ones in the bathroom on page 36 of your August 2013 issue?

– Jeanette Snyman

A: Various online shops sell vintage prints; check out barakashop.co.za, workart.co.za and poptart.co.za.



Q: What kind of wallpaper was featured on page 29 of your June 2015 issue, and can I apply it or do I need to call in a professional? – Viki Stander

A: It's a scene of Little Italy in New York printed by ArtLab (021 448 1421, artlab.co.za). It's best to leave it to the professionals!



Q: Who decorated the living room on page 18 of your May 2013 issue? I want to have the same chair covers made up. – Yvonne Joao, Witbank

A: The interior designer was Lise van Rensburg; call her on 083 290 6530 or email lisevanrensborg@yahoo.co.uk.



Weekend inspiration

This easy-to-make bath caddy is built for relaxation with place for scented candles, fragrant soaps – and a glass of vino!



Measure the width of the bath and cut two longer lengths (44 x 22 x 900mm) and as many 22 x 22 x 150mm lengths as you need to make a platform. Arrange the shorter lengths between the two longer lengths before gluing them together with Alcolin Ultra Wood Glue. We cut the ends of our frame lengths at 45° for a neat finish.



ALCOLIN PROMOTION

Fireplace fix-up

Franciske Roeloffse of Pretoria

writes Our house was built in 1958 and we're currently renovating it. Unfortunately, the previous owners closed up the chimney with cement so we can't use it. What can we do with this eyesore? How can we remove the glossy varnish on the stones, and how can we replace the black on the cement between the stones with a lighter colour?

Perhaps we could plaster over it or paint the fireplace the same colour as the rest of the house? I've also wondered whether we could repurpose the top section, perhaps as shelving or as a cupboard, so the space isn't totally wasted. Please help!



→ **Jani Goussard of Paint & Décor replies**

This is a real dilemma! The problem is compounded by the circular shape of the fireplace, as well as the diagonal side wall which

makes it virtually impossible to build any shelves higher up against the round chimney breast.

I suggest you move the focus away from the top part of the fireplace and also do away with the texture of the

stone. The easiest and cheapest way is to plaster over the stone. Use a product such as Paint & Décor's EasyPlast, which can be applied directly onto tiles and also onto stone such as yours – it will fill in the crevices and make it as smooth as the rest of your walls.

Then paint the chimney breast the same colour as your walls so it basically 'disappears'. If you love colour and a playful touch in your home, paint red and white stripes on the chimney breast so it resembles a lighthouse! You can always paint over it later.

To make up for the fact that the fireplace no longer functions, you could build wooden shelving around the base and use it as a bookcase. Alternatively, you could build seating around the base, upholster the backrest and seat, and add pretty cushions for a lovely reading nook.

Another solution is to build a simple framework around the fireplace and cover it with wooden planks; light wood adds a soft ambience to any room. Good luck with your project!

CONTACT paintdecordi.co.za



Before



Cover up!

Julene Trytsman of Sasolburg writes

My husband and I bought a farmhouse in June and it has the ugliest tiles.

Worse still, the entire house is tiled with them. What's the cheapest way to get rid of them and what do you suggest we use? We don't want to re-tile and have a limited budget.



→ **Heinrich Ehlers of Sansbury Unparalleled Renovations replies**

Unfortunately, this isn't going to be a cheap exercise. To lift the tiles will cost you about R55/m², including rubble removal.

This is your only option as it's never advisable to lay a new floor over existing tiles – the end result is just not the same and can lead to many problems later on. Here are three suggestions for new floors:

Install vinyl flooring There are many different designs; some even resemble tiles or wood. Quality varies and prices range between R350–R390/m², including preparation and installation. Vinyl is good value for money, warm, water-resistant and easy to maintain.

Lay a coloured cement screed floor Prices range between R210–R300/m² but if the area is less than 30m², most flooring companies will charge a minimum fee of

about R9 000. A disadvantage of cement screed floors is that they can be cold if there's no underfloor heating or rugs. Like vinyl, cement screed floors are easy to clean.

Polish the concrete floor This involves removing the surface layer to expose the raw concrete. An industrial floor polisher is then used to make the floor smooth and the end result is very pleasing. The process takes a few days and makes a lot of dust – rather find alternative accommodation while this is being done. The floor is well sealed and easy to clean; but it can also get cold. It costs R300–R360/m².

CONTACT sansbury.co.za





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Guiding You Home

Turning Dreams Into Reality

In an all new season of **Guiding You Home** we journey with top estate agents helping buyers on a mission to find their dream home. We'll take a peek into a variety of interesting houses and showcase some of South Africa's sought-after residential areas. Whether just starting out in the market or climbing the property ladder, find out the ins and outs of property buying from the experts.

Mon 12:30 • Tue 16:30 • Thur 20:30 • Fri 08:30 • Sat 15:30 & 23:30 • Sun 10:30 & 20:30

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Light up your life

Liesl van Wyk of Bloemfontein writes

Our dining room opens onto a 10m-wide stoep and I'd like to add outdoor lighting that I can leave on at night. Any advice on cost-effective options?



→ **Eurolux brand manager Andrew Wex replies**

Well-executed lighting is guaranteed to enhance any occasion. Bear in mind that it's easier to install lighting in ceilings and decking than brick,

concrete and tiles after electrical points have been allocated. Here are five options that won't break the bank:

1 Uplighting is an effective way of creating pools of light to highlight pillars, walls, water features and gardens. This is easily achieved with deck lighting or flexible garden spikes that are easy to position.

2 Downlighting is an unobtrusive option and you can often use a dimmer switch to

change the ambience to suit the mood or occasion.

3 Plug-in lights also work well outdoors: durable rope lights are good for winding around trees and pillars, fairy lights are perfect overhead for a dappled effect, and decorative table lights are another option so long as they're under cover.

4 Solar garden spikes with LEDs add another 'layer' of soft light and a decorative element to gardens, flowerbeds and paths. Otherwise, have electric garden spikes installed professionally and put them on a timer for convenience.

5 Rechargeable or portable lighting, such as a solar lantern, is the final solution and, thankfully, we're no longer limited to functional but unattractive options.

All of the above are extremely energy-efficient and cost-effective. Remember to always use a qualified electrician when installing anything permanent.

CONTACT eurolux.co.za >>



NIVEA.co.za

*Available at Clicks and Dis-Chem stores. Promotion valid from 21 Sept - 31 Dec. While stocks last. T's & C's apply

Stash it or trash it?

Email stashit@homemag.co.za

Smoke signals

Lesley D'Aquino of Jo'burg writes

We found this cigar table in my gran's house; there's no hallmark or signature that we can see, the wood is lightweight and there's a music box in one compartment. We think it may be from Germany?



→ **Anton Welz, director at Stephan Welz and Co, replies** This is a Black Forest smoker's table; the two compartments are for cigarettes and cigars. Although these items are known as Black Forest carvings, they don't come

from Germany but actually originate from Brienz in Switzerland.

The musical box mechanism is not uncommon in furniture and I've seen them underneath the flaps of chairs as well. This example is probably early 20th century – when smoking was more popular than today!

CIRCA 20th century **VALUE** R10 000 – R15 000

Dancing beauties

Lou Todd of KZN writes Can you identify and value these china dancers that we inherited?



→ **Shona Robie of Stephan Welz and Co replies** This 'Flamenco Dancers' figurine was manufactured by a Spanish company called Lladro. Lladro started production in the mid-1950s as a small family workshop in Almacera near the city of Valencia.

This specific model, originally sculpted by Fulgencio Garcia, was issued in 1970 but stopped being produced in 1992.

There is a strong market for Lladro items on the internet, with numerous collectors being American.

An example such as this one can sell for about R15 000 on the internet, but the market at auction is not so strong, specifically in SA.

CIRCA 1970s **VALUE** R5 000 – R7 000 at auction

CONTACT swelco.co.za



JJ's corner

Email gardens@homemag.co.za

A tree for a seaside garden

Freda Cloete of Elands Bay writes We live about 100m from the sea and get a lot of wind and salt spray. We want to plant a small evergreen tree on the pavement; my husband would like a shepherd's tree (*Boscia albitrunca*), while I'd prefer a wild olive (*Olea europaea* subsp. *africana*). Which would be best or do you have another suggestion? We don't want to plant a tree and give it lots of love and attention only to discover it was the wrong choice. We'd also like to keep it pruned back so that it doesn't spoil our view.

→ **JJ replies** Both would work very well but I prefer the wild olive. White milkwood (*Sideroxylon inerme*) is also an option.



A lack of fruit

Pienaar van Zyl of Swellendam writes

I have a lemon tree that doesn't bear fruit. It's four years old and planted in well-drained soil. It has no scale infestation or any other pests, it's growing well and is almost 3m tall. I had to trim some branches or the tree would probably have been more than 4m tall. What can I do to get it to bear fruit (I gave it a good dose of Bounce Back and 5:1:3)?

→ **JJ replies** I suggest you treat the plant during summer with limestone ammonium nitrate (LAN). By the end of February you can fertilise with organic 3:1:5.

CONTACT jj@gardenworld.co.za 🏠

COOL, CALM AND COLLECTED

The chalky landscape-inspired tones of the Element palette in the Plascon 2016 Colour Forecast made it the perfect choice for this serene bathroom makeover.

Mould and damp in the bathroom are problems many of us have to contend with – which is why these homeowners chose **Plascon Velvago Non-Drip Enamel** and **Velvago Water-Based Non-Drip Enamel** for their tranquil bathroom makeover.

This premium quality enamel paint creates a protective barrier resistant to heat, steam, mould and chips so it's perfect for bathrooms. And it is guaranteed for up to 12 years! With the help of **Plascon's Inspired Colour tinting system** – available in more than 1 000 shops around South Africa – choosing the right colours was a cinch.

Plascon Velvago Water-Based Non-Drip Enamel in Antique Petal on the walls adds a fresh feminine feel in a subtle pink. Velvago's unique gel form doesn't drip during brush application and dries to a semi-gloss velvet finish that's completely washable.

The wall tiles were updated with the blue-green tones of **Plascon Velvago Solvent-Based Non-Drip Enamel in Winter Haven**, the edges of the wooden cupboard doors were sanded to create a distressed finish, and the floor tiles and those around the sink were given dramatic appeal with a lick of **Plascon Velvago Solvent-Based EWA**.

Accents in trending colours from **Plascon's 2016 Colour Forecast** complete the look: the vintage frame and rug draw on the colour **Ravine**, while the pretty blooms and bath sheets pick up on the colour **Savanna**.

A bathroom *par excellence*!



*Antique
Petal*
R3-E2-3

*Winter
Haven*
B2-E2-3

EWA
72



Before

The palette



Inspiration for accents



Plascon Advisory Service
0860 2040 60
www.plasconspaces.co.za





Animal antics

It's time to soak up some sunshine!

Compiled by Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel
(and her Beagle, Frodo)

Readers' happy snaps



What you got?

Yorkies MoJo, Tomi and KoKo hope for some tabletop tidbits! – Sue Blackie, Honeydew



Do not disturb

Mila has laid claim to the most comfortable spot in the garden. – Izelda du Toit, Bellville



Soft spot

Eight-week-old Boston Terrier pup Pepsi finds his happy place. – Danielle Versteeg, Kirkwood



Veld flower

Rescue dog Luna lives for mountain walkies. – Lyndall Marwick, Cape Town



*Here's how
to get that
weathered
look...*

In-house expert

Goeters knows everything about vintage paint techniques!

– Karlien Potgieter, Bergville, KZN



Hello there!

Rescue kitty Oortjies is a welcome surprise in the garden.

– Marlene Kotzé, Moorsburg

Frodo's favourite!



No bones about it!

Treat your furry friend to a beautifully iced nutritious biscuit from Montego's new Bags O' Wags (R54 for 1kg, montego.co.za); the coating is non-sucrose, making it completely safe for your dog to eat.

WIN!

Each pet owner whose pic is featured here wins a large interior futon for dogs or a medium Snuggle Rug for cats from Wag World (wagworld.co.za). The interior futon, a stylish addition to any home, offers your hound the best possible support for a comfy sleep, and cats will love the Snuggle Rug with its padded, double-layer filling – and it's machine-washable! Send your pics (at least 2MB each) and full contact details to pets@homemag.co.za and your pet might be a winner too! See competition rules on page 128. 🏠

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WHAT IS PET MEDICAL INSURANCE?

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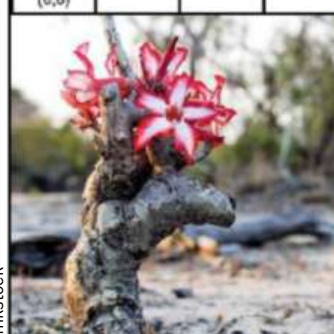
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FROM
ONLY
R34
A MONTH!

Music genre		A circuit		Cut down (a tree)		Small mouthful				Deliver a sermon	An indigenous flower (6,6)	
						Found out	Cuban drink					
Fronts		Gate		Unhappy		Doglike scavenger						
Sign of the zodiac	Explode		Black-thorn				Assist					
			Belgian city		Soap opera on e.tv	Polar region					Passage	High male voices
Paths	Scorch					Lyrical poems	Consume		15th-century Japanese drama	Ripen		
				PIN, eg				State				
Bredie		Frog				Perched on				Utilises	Leave	
				Following				Improvise (2,3)	Monarch Iris			
Quarrel	Greek letter	Stops	Morning (abbr)			Type of beer	Got up				Strenuous	
				Let it be		Assortment	Articles			Appointment	Glide on ice	
Endangered plants (6,6)										Island (abbr) Zone		
				Part of the eye						Noah's vessel		
						Handle ... and flow			Opera solo	Regarding		
				Purpose			The East					
				Yes (archaic)		Drainage						

Thinkstock



WIN! Wine worth R1 500 from Van Loveren!

Every romantic soul and wine lover who cares about the environment will love Van Loveren's Tangled Tree range, which confirms the Retief family's dedication to sustainable wine-making. "These are generous wines," says Phillip Retief. "They're magnanimous towards nature with their ecofriendly packaging, liberal in their exciting flavours and easy on the pockets of consumers." Mouthwatering names such as Spicy Shiraz, Chocolate Cabernet Sauvignon, Butterscotch Chardonnay, Moscato Rosé and Tropical Sauvignon Blanc make it easy to find the perfect flavour for any occasion, menu or taste buds! Visit tangledtreewines.co.za. **The reader who sends in the first correctly completed crossword drawn will win 24 bottles of these delicious wines, plus a Van Loveren goodie pack.** See our competition rules on page 128.

Send the completed crossword and your details to: **Home Crossword #82, PO Box 1802, Cape Town 8000** or email to competition@homemag.co.za to reach us by 31 October 2015.

Name Address

Postal code Tel. (h) Tel. (w) Email



AkzoNobel

Style tip

Add a touch of vintage style with light wooden accessories to create a classic warm and welcoming space.

You can add glass objects and simple modern art to complete an understated timeless look.

Bring the breezy charm of Scandi style into your home...

Turn your room into an invigorating yet calm sanctuary with the clarity and freshness of **Peaceful Scandinavia™**.

A fresh blue colour palette that evokes purity and welcomes new beginnings and fresh new starts.

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Simply choose from the **Dulux Peaceful Scandinavia™** palette offering five colours that complement each other beautifully ranging from strong architectural blues to delicate glacial tones.

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The **Dulux Colours of the World™** collection of ready-mixed colours is not only easy on

the eye but also offers the convenience of low-odour, washable paint that transforms your home beautifully. This range is available in two convenient pack sizes – the bolder shades in 2.5-litre packs and the lighter shades in 5-litre packs. For more product information visit www.dulux.co.za or contact the Dulux Careline on 0860 330 111.

In addition to **Peaceful Scandinavia™**, the **Dulux Colours of the World™** range also brings you **Passionate Argentina™**, **Soulful Kenya™**, **Romantic Provence™** and **Balanced Japan™**.



Colours used on the walls in the main image are **Truly Scandinavia™**, **Gentle Scandinavia™** and **Daring Scandinavia™**.

Colour references are as accurate as printing will allow. Please refer to the Dulux on-shelf displays for an accurate representation of the colour.

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WIN

One lucky reader will win a luxurious bush getaway for two worth R43 000!



Kapama Private Game Reserve is wild Africa at its best. Situated within the greater Kruger Park area and covering 13 000 hectares, Kapama is home to the Big Five, vast herds of antelope, plenty of predators and more than 350 bird species!

The reserve offers four accommodation options: there's the flagship Kapama Karula Lodge on the banks of the Klaserie River; the luxurious Southern Camp; the smaller tented Buffalo Camp; and the River Lodge with full spa in the Wellness Centre. And that's not all! You can even opt for a romantic night under the stars on a custom-built raised deck.

Guests can also enjoy game drives, guided bush walks, elephant safaris and guided elephant encounters.

Getting there is easy: it's a six-hour drive from Johannesburg or you can take one of the daily scheduled flights from Cape Town and Johannesburg to Hoedspruit Airport. Kapama offers complimentary transfers to fly-in guests, and the short drive to the lodge on open safari vehicles also includes a game drive.

• For more information and bookings, call 012 368 0600 or go to kapama.com.

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One reader will win a luxurious four-night getaway for two in the Royal Suite, including accommodation, all meals, two game drives and a spa treatment for each person – all to the value of R43 000!

HOW TO ENTER

- Online at homemag.co.za.
- SMS the keyword KAPAMA followed by your name, email and postal address to 44284 (each SMS costs R1.50); see our competition rules on page 128.

CLOSING DATE

31 October 2015

DÉCOR DAYDREAMING

From exclusive gifts to gorgeous homeware, your stilettos wouldn't have to set foot outside this décor haven.



1 Cake platter R450, doorknobs R25–R30 each, **Poetry** 2 Shiraz runner (100 x 60cm) R950, **Royal Persian Gallery** 3 Lantern R179, six-piece Jamie Oliver knife block set R1 999, **@home** 4 Metallic urn R350, New Orleans candelabra R795, **Coricraft** 5 DeLonghi Vintage four-slice toaster R1 399, Victoria scatter cushions R300 each, **Boardmans** 6 Ice cream bowls R290 each, traditional kettle R1 050, **Le Creuset** 7 Pure cotton single duvet cover with pillow slip R526, matching scatter cushions from R131 each, bolster R175, **Miss Lyn** 8 Persian Gabbeh R1 600 (93 x 58cm), **Persian World** 9 Paddle-shaped chopping board R200, floral tea caddy R400, **Mr Price Home** 10 Magnolia cushion R90, recipe book holder R100, **Sheet Street** 11 Indoor-outdoor, UV- and mildew-resistant Prisma range carpet R770, **Rugs Original**

For more information, contact us on 021 914 1822, visit tygervalley.co.za or like us on Facebook.



plants
of the month



Marié Esterhuyse

A purple *patch*

Flowers in amethyst shades are sure to catch the eye – especially when combined with splashes of white.

By Marié Esterhuyse • Photographs Francois Oberholster,
Deryck van Steenderen and Kosie Jansen van Rensburg
Styling Johané Neilson





Large shrub or climber

Purple wreath

Purple wreath is covered in clusters of purple, star-like flowers in spring and early summer. It grows well in subtropical gardens and likes lots of sun. In warmer parts of the country it may even flower more than once a year.

In colder regions, plant it against a wall or in a sheltered spot. Purple wreath likes well-drained, compost-rich soil. Keep the plant well-watered during dry spells and protect it from strong winds.

This climber needs a sturdy trellis and will need to be trained up the support. Prune after flowering in spring to retain its shape and size. It can also be pruned smaller to be grown as a shrub.

Also plant: *Petrea volubilis* 'Albiflora' with clusters of white flowers. >>

Plant guide

Common name

Purple wreath

Botanical name

Petrea volubilis

✓ **Full sun**

✓ **Moderately**

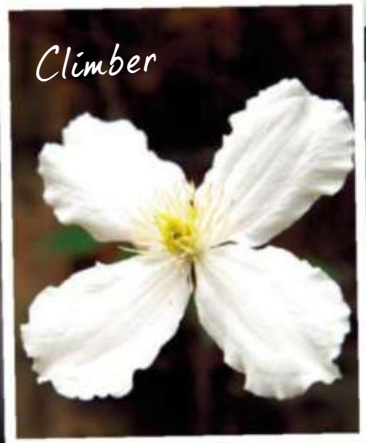
frost-resistant

✓ **Average water needs**

✓ **Evergreen or semi-deciduous, depending on the climate**

✓ **Height 3–6m**

Climber



Clematis montana

Clematis montana bears an abundance of smallish white flowers in spring. It does especially well in the colder, wetter parts of the country. Plant in well-drained, compost-rich soil with its roots in the shade and the uppermost parts in the sun – its roots can be grown in the shade of a shrub or tree. Add a layer of mulch or pebbles around the plant to keep the roots cool.

Clematis montana will look good scrambling up a tree or shrub, or covering a pergola. It can be grown against a wall, but provide a trellis for support. Keep the plant well-watered in the growing season (from summer to the end of autumn) and protect it from wind. Pruning is not necessary, unless the plant becomes too rampant.

Also plant: *Clematis montana* 'Elizabeth' with pale pink flowers and indigenous *Clematis brachiata*.

Plant guide

Common name

Himalayan clematis/
anemone clematis

Botanical name

Clematis montana

✓ Full sun to
semi-shade

✓ Average water needs

✓ Deciduous

✓ Frost-resistant



Perennial **Heliotrope**

Heliotrope blooms virtually non-stop from spring right through summer. As a bonus, its flowers are highly fragrant and will attract butterflies – plant it in a pot or near a stoep where you can enjoy its beautifully scented blooms.

Heliotrope prefers a sunny spot with compost-rich soil. In very hot parts it will do better in semi-shade. Keep it well-watered, especially in summer. *Heliotropium arborescens* 'Princess Marina' with its deep purple flowers is a popular choice. Cut back in winter by about two-thirds and again by a third after the first flowering season in spring to encourage prolonged flowering throughout summer.

Also plant:

Heliotropium arborescens 'Alba' with white flowers and *H. arborescens* 'Florence Nightingale' with violet-coloured flowers.

Did you know?

Heliotrope flowers follow the sun, hence the name. It is derived from the Greek word *helios* (sun) and *tropos* (to turn). 🏠

Plant guide

- Common name
Heliotrope/cherry pie
- Botanical name
Heliotropium arborescens
- ✓ Full sun to semi-shade
- ✓ Moderately frost-resistant
- ✓ Average water needs
- ✓ Evergreen
- ✓ Height 1m
- ✓ Width 45cm

SOURCES *The South African What Flower is That?* by Kristo Pienaar, *Gardening with Keith Kirsten* by Keith Kirsten, *Reader's Digest A South African Garden for All Seasons* with chief contributor Jennifer Godbold-Simpson, gardeninginsouthafrica.co.za

A classic combination

Some might not regard white as a colour, but **this Johannesburg garden** proves that when combined with green, it is timeless.

By Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel

Photographs Elza Roux

Styling Amanda van Wyngaardt

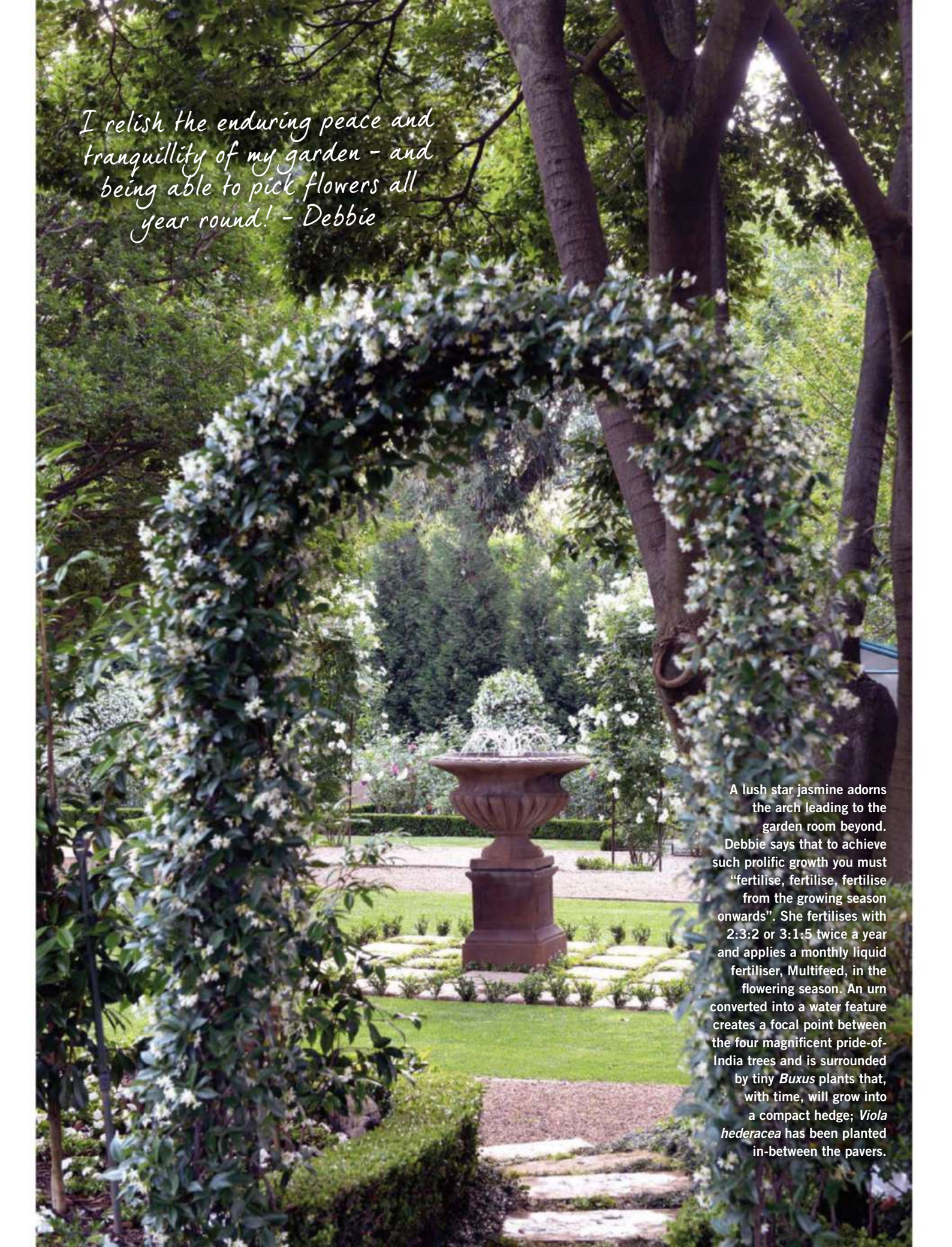
The garden

HOMEOWNERS Debbie and Eduardo Cerimele

WHERE Houghton, Johannesburg



Debbie with her beloved Great Dane, Daisy – sadly, Daisy passed away recently. Debbie landscaped the entire garden herself and says this tunnel pergola covered with 'Iceberg' roses is one of her favourite garden rooms. >>

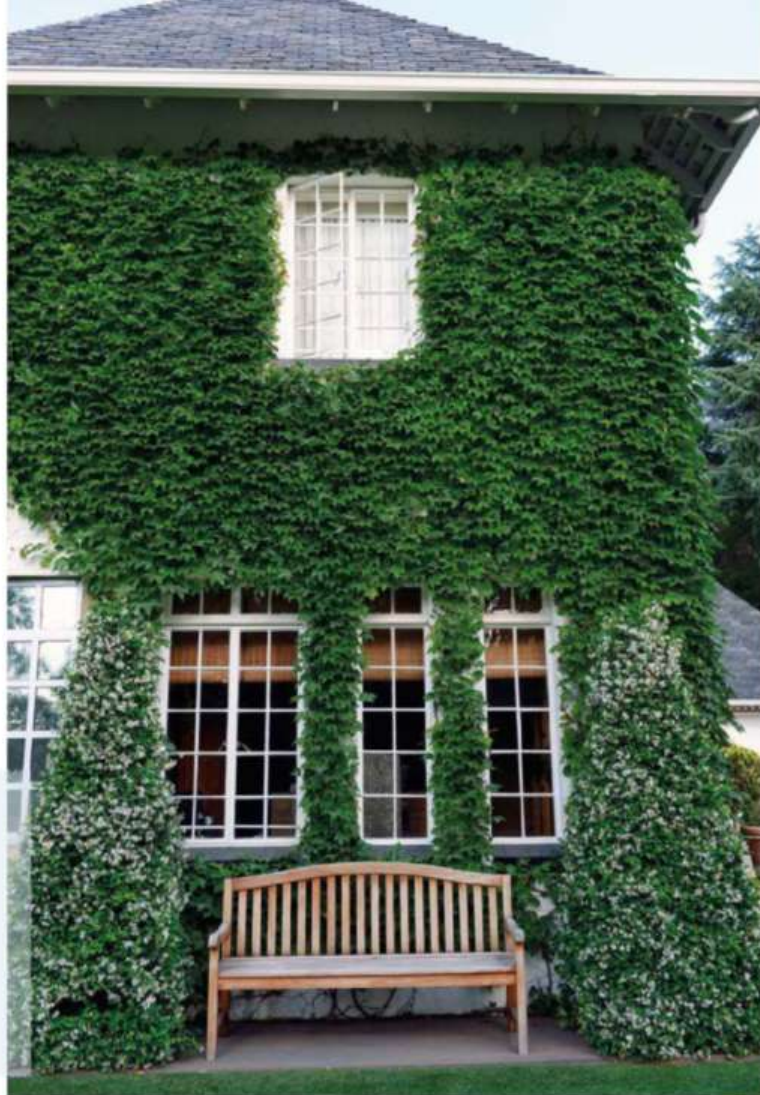


I relish the enduring peace and tranquillity of my garden - and being able to pick flowers all year round! - Debbie

A lush star jasmine adorns the arch leading to the garden room beyond. Debbie says that to achieve such prolific growth you must "fertilise, fertilise, fertilise from the growing season onwards". She fertilises with 2:3:2 or 3:1:5 twice a year and applies a monthly liquid fertiliser, Multifeed, in the flowering season. An urn converted into a water feature creates a focal point between the four magnificent pride-of-India trees and is surrounded by tiny *Buxus* plants that, with time, will grow into a compact hedge; *Viola hederacea* has been planted in-between the pavers.

If you knock on Debbie Cerimele's front door and no one opens, you'd best go looking in one of the many garden rooms outside. You might find her enjoying her favourite spot, the pergola covered with the lush foliage and snow-white buds of 'Climbing Iceberg' roses, or strolling around, secateurs in hand, picking blooms from her romantic flower-filled borders. And who wouldn't want to spend all day in a paradise such as this, where gravel paths crunch underfoot, babbling water features add a soft melodious touch and birds twitter and sing?

But the garden hasn't always been this beautiful. When Debbie moved into her 1940s home nine years ago, the property was completely overgrown. There was no design or structure to the garden and the weeds were winning the war against the flowers. However, Debbie saw the potential in the 4 000m² property – and with the help of her two faithful gardeners, brothers Alex and Edward Manyise, set about fixing it.



To add a formal touch outside the windows (*left*), Debbie planted strongly scented star jasmines that have been trained up obelisks specially made by Garden Bleu. The walls of the house are bedecked with Boston ivy (*top*); 'Iceberg' roses (*above left*) and white pansies (*above right*) provide a wonderful display for months on end. >>

Several potted *Buxus* have been clipped into balls and placed atop the white balustrades; a ticky creeper is scrambling up the structure while mondo grass has been used to soften the pavers.


Debbie's best blooms

White flowers

- *Magnolia grandiflora*
- Star jasmine (*Jasminum multipartitum*)
- 'Iceberg' rose
- *Camellia japonica*
- Hydrangea

Favourite roses

- 'Roberto Capucci'
- 'Snow Queen'
- 'Just Joey'
- 'The Rhenish Rose'
- 'Sharifa Asma'



Rose and garden care

- Debbie's roses are pruned every year in late July; if there's still a danger of frost occurring, she prunes in the first week of August. Roses are transplanted at the end of June or early July. Hydrangeas are trimmed in August.
- In the growing season, roses are sprayed every two weeks with one of Ludwig's 'cocktails' (a combination of several pesticides) and fertilised monthly with Vigorosa.
- The All Seasons Evergreen and Shade Over lawns are fertilised every six weeks with organic Vita Grow 5:1:5. >>



A five-year journey

"I like formal, straight lines and had a definite idea of what the garden should look like," says Debbie. After much research through gardening books and magazines, on Pinterest and browsing through photographs of gardens she'd visited both locally and abroad, Debbie tackled the enormous task that would occupy her for the next five years.

Her first goal was to give the garden structure with a formal rose garden, three water features, a courtyard filled with pride-of-India, a pathway with rose-covered arches and a swimming pool garden. The pathways are not all identical: some have been made with gravel, others with pavers or concrete blocks – most have been softened with groundcovers in-between. The water feature next to the formal rose garden was built with the help of André Kruger of Garden Bleu – a company that specialises in garden décor and design. They also provided the rose obelisks featured throughout the garden.

The magic of white

A large number of terracotta pots planted up with topiary *Buxus* or white pansies add impact to the formal layout of the garden – whether in groups, in neat rows or making a statement next to a water feature.

"Most of the roses and cut flowers in the garden are white. I love the combination of white and green in a garden," says Debbie. "White is a very classic colour and shows up beautifully in the evening. It's really timeless."

"The biggest lesson I learned with the layout of the garden is that your first choice of plants is not necessarily the right choice. It's a case of trial and error – and it comes at a cost!"

Her advice for anyone wishing to design a formal rose garden is to first do a sketch on paper. "If you're

unsure, consult a local horticulturist or talk to someone at your nursery. And make sure your roses get at least six hours of sunlight a day!" 🏡

CONTACT AND STOCKIST
André Kruger 082 893 5669
Garden Bleu 011 888 4734,
gardenbleu.co.za

Large terracotta pots planted up with lemon trees line the water feature. Debbie loves the calming sound of water.

Water features for drinking and splashing in are a great way to attract birds to your garden.

A touch of pink adds an element of surprise to the formal rose garden.

Design a rose garden

Two experts show you how to create a rosy nook or formal bed that will be the envy of your friends.

By Marié Esterhuysen

Rose bed #1 A secret corner

Lizette du Plessis, a rose enthusiast from Hennenman in the Free State and treasurer of the Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa (ROSA), recently created a secret rose nook in her garden. She plans to spend lots of quiet time here, as soon as the roses have grown big enough. "I saw something similar in Italy and decided I definitely needed one in my rose garden!"

The nook is easy to design. Lizette and her husband Bakkies placed the arches – available from Agape Roses in Hennenman – in a square and then secured them with cable ties.

"Plant two climbing roses at each corner," she says. "Train the roses to grow up the arches. They will eventually cover the nook with a 'roof' – perhaps suspend wire across the top to give the roses support.

To add the finishing touch to your secret refuge, plant low-growing roses around the base of the arches and leave a gap for the opening."



Lizette du Plessis



'Little Red Hedge'

Lizette's tips for rose gardens

- I only plant hardy, robust roses that can survive the Free State heat and drought; such as 'Grey College', 'Not Simply Pink' and 'Otto de Jager'.
- Roses like morning sun and a bit of shade in the afternoon.
- Once a month (but not in winter), apply Vigorosa to your rose bed.
- Don't continually dig around roses; this disturbs the micro-organisms in the soil.
- Keep an eye on the leaves; if they're healthy, you'll have beautiful roses.
- Give roses sufficient water – they should be watered at least twice a week and the soil must drain well. If it is very hot, give them additional water.
- Only prune at the end of July. Make sure there are no leaves on the stems that remain.
- During the course of the year, I also trim the roses lightly to keep them neat and I remove spent blooms regularly.
- Add a layer of mulch around the roots of the roses – I use bark chips, decomposed lucerne or peanut shells.

Rose list

A 'Starry Eyed'

B 'Little Red Hedge'

Consider these alternatives:

A 'Blossom Magic' with

B 'Little Pink Hedge'.

A 'Butterscotch' with

B 'Deloitte & Touche'.

A 'Wedding Garland' with

B 'Purple Glow'.

Choose an arch without intricate detail because it will, in any case, become overgrown; plain rose arches are usually cheaper. – Lizette

Rose bed #2

Formal and romantic

Stellenbosch landscaper Pietman Diener likes to combine roses with other flowers. "Roses work well with a wide variety of plants and flowers and by planting them together you'll increase the impact of the flowerbed."

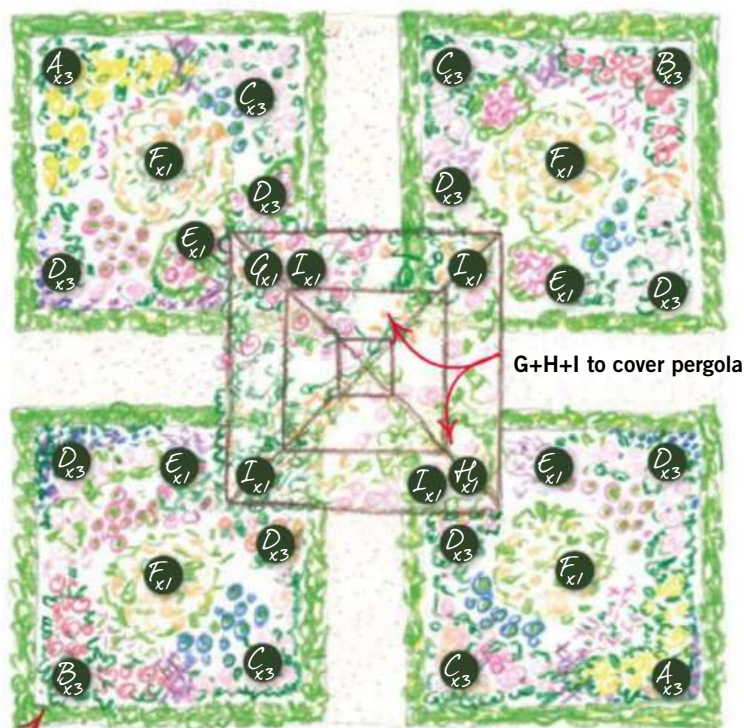
Pietman's border is formal in layout but the variety of plants gives it a soft, romantic feel. The low privet hedge always looks neat and frames each block beautifully.



Pietman Diener

This rose garden is 9m x 9m.

If you don't have enough space for all four blocks and the pergola, create one 4 x 4m block and replace the honeysuckle (see 'I', where one corner of the pergola would have been) with any of the other roses.



Rose list

- A** 'Charlotte' or 'Courvoisier'
- B** 'The Dark Lady' or 'Crimson Glory'
- C** 'French Panarosa'
- D** 'My Granny'
- E** 'Fantin-Latour' or 'Clarens Centenary'
- F** 'Mutabilis' or 'Perfumed Breeze'
- G** 'Souvenir de Mme Leonie Viennot' or 'Eden Rose'
- H** 'Paul Transon' or 'Wedding Garland'

Pietman's tips for rose gardens

- The flowers you plant next to roses mustn't crowd them out. Roses need lots of sun and enough air circulation for healthy growth and blooms.
- Plant another climber such as clematis or honeysuckle in the same hole as a climbing rose – this will ensure more colour for longer.
- Cut off spent flowers regularly – this encourages roses to flower prolifically.
- Prune spring-flowering old-fashioned roses only after they have bloomed and cut them back hard. Roses that flower repeatedly throughout the season should be pruned in winter.
- Plant an evergreen hedge such as privet, Australian rosemary or common boxwood around your rose garden. It looks good all year round, even once the roses have been pruned in winter.

Companion plants for Pietman's rose garden

- **Honeysuckle** (*Lonicera periclymenum*) – an evergreen climber that is perfect for covering the 'roof' of the pergola; simply plant them in the same hole as the roses!
- Heliotrope (*Heliotrope arborescens*)
- Bushbuck pelargonium (*Pelargonium graveolens*)
- Gaura (*Oenothera lindheimeri*)
- Spanish lavender (*Lavandula stoechas*)
- Lamb's ears (*Stachys byzantina*)
- Delphinium (*Delphinium X elatum*)
- English violet (*Viola odorata*)
- Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*)
- Tussock bellflower (*Campanula carpatica*)

Rosa gigantea 'La Follette' is a wild climbing rose that will scramble up a tree to create a gorgeous display with its clusters of soft pink roses. - Pietman



Planting tips

Roses grow in almost any type of soil; so wherever you live, you should be able to plant them.

Here's how:

- Choose a spot that gets at least six hours of sun a day, preferably morning sun.
- If you plant more than one rose at a time, dig over the entire bed rather than making individual holes.
- Work well-rotted compost and bonemeal into the turned bed.
- Mark where you want to plant your roses. Dig a hole big enough to fit the rose in its planting bag.
- Add a cup of bonemeal and half a cup of Vigorosa to the bottom of each hole and mix it with the soil you removed from the hole. Make sure the soil drains well.
- Carefully cut the planting bag open and plant your rose as deep as it was in the bag. Lightly press the soil around the rose with your shoe and water well. 🏠

Visit homemag.co.za to view Ludwig Taschner's video on how to prune your roses.





Tessa Jean-Jacques

Garden diary

Celebrate World Food Day on 16 October by planting your own veggie garden – and invite some pollinators!

Compiled by Tessa Jean-Jacques • Photographs: Francois Oberholster and supplied • Send garden info to gardens@homemag.co.za.

Efekto's Tip of the Month
Eradicate weeds before they start flowering by applying Roundup Gel to their leaves to kill them at root level – this may take up to 28 days but the weeds won't grow back and the weedkiller won't harm surrounding plants or soil.

Tasks for October

By Kay Montgomery

1 Pretty in pink

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, find a spot in your garden for flowers in shades of pink. Pink is restful with blue and lavender, fresh with shades of green or silver-grey, and dramatic with purple or chocolate.

Fill pots with hot-pink petunias to draw attention to an entrance; edge a sunny pathway with rose-pink alyssum and violet-pink vinca cultivars; and in light shade, plant pink bedding begonias to define a curved border or to make a broad ribbon of gentle colour. Plant perennial echinacea with rosy-pink petals and a cinnamon-brown central cone, gaura with delicate pink and white butterfly-like flowers held on tall wiry stems, and pink bell-shaped flowers of penstemon in a butterfly garden.

The pink 'Reach for Recovery' rose is named for the support group that helps women cope and recover from breast cancer. The roses in the Knock Out series, which include single and double pink blooms, are a good choice as they're resistant to disease. As is the 'Eden Rose', also known as 'Pierre de Ronsard', with its soft pink flowers and height of more than 2m which makes it suitable for growing over arches, fences, pillars and trellises.

2 Homegrown health

Grow an assortment of fruit, vegetables and herbs that haven't been sprayed with insecticides or pesticides to provide a nutritious diet for your family. **Grow veggies and herbs among flowers** to encourage pollination by beneficial insects.

Quick-growing plants can be planted and harvested between slow growers – radish with carrot, lettuce with broccoli. Save space by growing climbing beans, tomatoes, baby marrows and cucumbers up trellises and tripods.

Plants with strong scents are useful for discouraging pests. Basil is a herb perfect for the warmer seasons and is suitable for growing in the garden and in pots; it does best in morning sun and afternoon shade.



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3 Create a butterfly-friendly habitat

A garden for butterflies should be in a sunny position and sheltered from strong winds. It won't be immaculate, but any leaves eaten by caterpillars are a small sacrifice to pay for the joy of watching the butterflies.

A butterfly garden should include plants for each stage of their life cycle – egg, caterpillar, chrysalis and butterfly – with flowers that bloom in different seasons to attract the greatest number and variety of species.

By including plants of varying heights, you will encourage large and tiny butterflies to visit your garden. Grow alyssum, aster, *Bauhinia galpinii*, buddleja, catmint, hebe, hibiscus, lavender, marigold, nicotiana, pentas, plumbago, scabious, thyme, tulbaghia and verbena.

Butterflies are attracted to daisy-like flowers and the summer garden has a wonderful selection of annual and perennial daisy-like blooms in white, cream, pink, apricot, yellow, red and mahogany, ranging in height from sunflower, gloriosa daisy, echinacea, Shasta daisy, matricaria, Marguerite daisy and felicia to gazania.

In addition to providing suitable plants for caterpillars and nectar for adults, it's important to include water sources. Mud puddles and weathered rocks that hold water are favourite places where butterflies can drink, sunbathe and heat up their wing muscles for flight.



Pentas



Penstemon



Plumbago



Alyssum



Zinnia

Gardening tips for October

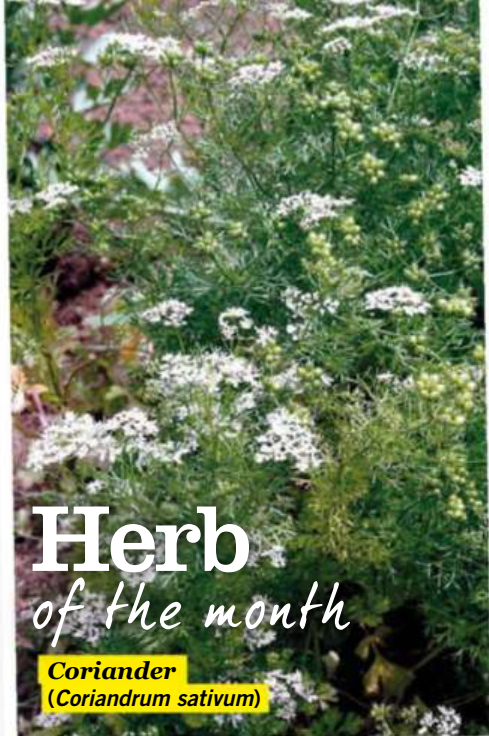
- Weedbuster Week (2nd week in October) is a reminder to remove alien invader plants in your garden, including groundcovers such as *Vinca minor* and *Vinca major* (sterile cultivars and hybrids are not a problem), wild strawberry (*Duchesnea indica*) and green- and purple-leaved tradescantia.
- Give newly planted trees and shrubs a thorough soaking once a week to encourage a good root system and new growth. The feeding roots of trees extend to the drip line of the branches, so make sure this area is well-watered and fertilised.
- Fertilise established shrubs with a general fertiliser such as 2:3:2 and spread an 8cm layer of mulch to discourage weeds and retain moisture. The soil must be moist before mulching.
- Some easy-to-grow annuals that give a really bright show throughout summer are cleome, cosmos, bedding dahlia, marigold, nicotiana, vinca cultivars and zinnia. Plant them in full sun.
- As the heat from the sun increases, move houseplants away from windows.
- Raise lawnmower blades in hot, dry weather to avoid scorching the roots, and water lawns frequently. >>



Roses have since ancient times been symbolic of love and beauty, and need the correct nutrition and protection.

Wonder Vitaliser Rose & Flower with added Bio-Carbon is fast acting and economical, enhances bud formation and boosts colour while promoting healthy plantgrowth. You will see the difference.





Herb of the month

Coriander
(*Coriandrum sativum*)

Whether you know it as cilantro, coriander or Chinese parsley, this culinary herb is pungent!

How to grow It grows best in spring and autumn, in full sun and in light, rich soil that drains well. Regular watering is necessary. It grows well with potatoes and anise, but not with fennel.

Different types Annual coriander has a height of 50cm and spread of 30cm, while perennial Vietnamese coriander (*Persicaria odorata*) is a different species with the same flavour but a hotter, peppery aftertaste. It's frost hardy, spreading and likes consistently moist soil. The leaves withstand longer cooking and combine particularly well with chillies, garlic, ginger and lemongrass.

Tip of the month Pick just before using because the soft leaves wilt quickly.

Did you know? The roots and seeds of annual coriander are also edible. Collect the roots when lifting the plant; they have a nutty flavour. To collect the seeds, allow the plant to flower. When it dies, pull the plant out, hang it upside down, cover it with a brown paper bag and the seed will fall into the bag.

Common problems Coriander tends to bolt into flower in midsummer so is best grown during the cooler seasons.

Uses Add the leaves to Asian dishes, stir-fries, salsa, guacamole, salads and sandwiches or use with chicken, pork and beef, and as a garnish for dhal and curries. Add seeds to curries, bread, cakes, biscuits, pickles, tomato chutney, marmalade, sausages and boerewors. Grate the roots into Thai dishes, soups and curry pastes.

CONTACT healthyliving-herbs.co.za



Franschhoek Open Garden Festival

It's open garden season!

23, 24 & 25: Franschhoek Open Garden Festival Enjoy a variety of small village and large farm gardens, a plant sale, wine-tasting and live music. Tickets, available at the Franschhoek Town Hall and Fransvliet guesthouse on the day, cost R150 per person for the whole weekend; call 021 876 2861.

23, 24 & 25: Bedford Garden Festival This Eastern Cape festival proudly presents world-renowned country gardens, pretty town and township gardens, scrumptious food, fine wines and much more! Call 082 932 8864 or go to bedford-gardens.co.za.

24 & 25: Klein Optenhorst near Wellington opens its garden to the public from 9:00–16:30. The nursery, which specialises

in salvias, will be open on both days. Entrance is R40, including fresh scones and tea; call 021 864 1210.

24 & 25: The Greyton Rose Fair boasts more than 14 open gardens plus a market. For more information, call 082 886 4093 or visit greytonrosefair.com.

Newsflash!

Enjoy designer herb gardens, a herb market, talks by herb experts and guided walks through the labyrinth-inspired herb spiral at the **Herb Happening** from **30 October – 1 November** at the Healthy Living Herbs farm in Midrand. Tickets cost R40 for adults, R30 for pensioners and R10 for under-12s; call 011 464 0921 or check out healthyliving-herbs.co.za.

Garden goodies



In the hand

Hand rakes R50 (above) and R87, starkeayresgc.co.za



Bathing beauties
Cement bird bath R280, italcement.com



Spray it
Plant sprayer (600ml) R130, woolworths.co.za

Clean up
Probio Pond Clean concentrated liquid for pond maintenance R74, faithful-to-nature.co.za

Plant a seed

Nature-friendly coco plugs (25) for seed planting R64, starkeayresgc.co.za



Gleaming the cube

Colour-changing and weather-resistant LED solar cube R1 100, lightingwarehouse.co.za



Ludwig's rose corner

Visit ludwigsroses.co.za and send queries to gardens@homemag.co.za.

Rose guru Ludwig Taschner offers advice on how to encourage roses to produce more buds and what to do with brak water.

Q: My borehole water is slightly brak (salty); can I use it for my roses?

→ A high content of sodium (Na) in the water and the soil is a real problem for most plants. I would advise watering once a week with municipal water and adding flowers of sulphur every three months. You can also add huge quantities of milled pine bark compost (a 45dm³ bag per plant) to help neutralise the salt. Working in gypsum is also advantageous; it neutralises the sodium without changing the pH.

Be inspired!

Don't miss Ludwig's Roses Spring Rose Show at the Rose Farm in Pretoria from **3–11 October**. Take a look at Anja Taschner's stunning wall and floor displays and enjoy floral artist Jill Manson's workshops on the meaning of flowers; you can also take a free tractor trailer ride through the gardens! Entrance is free; call 012 544 0144 or go to ludwigsroses.co.za.

A beautiful new rose!

'Afrikaans' is a new floribunda rose with a combination of vibrant orange and gold long-lasting flowers and glossy, disease-resistant leaves. It can reach up to 2m high and wide when its growth is left unchecked. It will perform in mass plantings or as a dense flowering hedge against fences and on walls. It can also be grown in large pots and responds well to shape trimming in summer and hard winter pruning. The rose was named to mark the 90th anniversary of Afrikaans being accepted as a language worldwide.



How to deadhead and disbud

Deadheading and disbudding isn't a 'must' but it does encourage roses to produce new buds quicker, as well as good quality, long-stemmed roses for the vase.

How to deadhead 'Deadheading' is quite misleading because it implies only removing the dead flowerhead. The correct way to do it is to cut back the stem of a dead bloom about halfway down, making sure there are leaves below the cut. Removing dead flowers regularly keeps bushes looking neat and speeds up the development of new shoots.

How to disbud This is done only with hybrid tea roses and only if you want large, long-stemmed, exhibition-quality blooms. Hybrid teas produce a main bud at the end of each stem, which we call the "terminal" bud. On either side of this there are smaller side buds.

Here's how Pull off the **side buds** to allow all the strength of the rose to go into the **terminal bud**, making one large bloom. If you don't disbud, the stem will produce a cluster of smaller blooms on shorter stems. There's nothing wrong with this – it actually makes a better show in the garden. 🏡

Disbud some blooms on a bush and leave others so you have both garden colour and pickable blooms. – Ludwig



Tasks by region

Summer rainfall areas Water twice a week and fertilise with Vigorosa once a month; roses with unnaturally short stems are not receiving enough water. Prevent thrips and aphids with Ludwig's Insect Spray or Plant Care, or a combination of Kemprin (Garden Ripcord) and Koinor as a spray or drench. Cut off dead blooms regularly. Keep soil cool and moist with a 10cm layer of mulch.

Cape coastal Spray fortnightly with Chronos or Rose Protector to protect new leaves. Fertilise once a month with Vigorosa and as the rainy season ends, make sure roses receive regular, deep watering.

Lowveld and KwaZulu-Natal coast Ensure roses receive at least 10L of water a week and fertilise in mid-October with Vigorosa; in areas with high humidity and mist, spray every two weeks with Chronos or Rose Protector to protect new growth from fungal disease. Keep soil cool and moist with a 10cm layer of mulch.



Sweet **temptations**

Give in to your craving for something decadent and bake some of these goodies for tea!

By Johané Neilson
Photographs Francois Oberholster



Vanilla cupcakes
Recipe on page 112.

baking
Put the kettle on!

*Granny Jonni's
glamour cake*
Recipe on page 112.



Meringue roses

Whisk 3 extra-large egg whites, a pinch of salt and a pinch of cream of tartar together until it forms soft peaks. Beat in 210g (250ml) castor sugar, a spoonful at a time, while whisking constantly; keep whisking until the mixture is thick and glossy. Flavour with coconut- or vanilla essence and add a drop of pink food colouring. Spoon the mixture into a piping bag with a star nozzle and pipe roses onto baking trays lined with baking paper. Bake for 1 hour at 120°C and then for another 2 hours at 50°C. >>





Mango and white chocolate tart

Makes 1 x 23cm tart • Preparation time: 25 minutes • Cooking time: 10 minutes • Oven temperature: 200°C

- 1 packet (200g) ginger biscuits, finely crumbled
- 100g (100ml) butter, melted

FILLING

- 200g white chocolate, chopped
- 1 tub (250g) mascarpone cheese
- 125ml double cream
- 60ml castor sugar (or to taste)
- 300g fresh mango slices, puréed
- 5ml lemon zest

1 Preheat the oven to 200°C. Combine the biscuit crumbs and butter, and press into a springform tart pan. Bake the crust for 10 minutes and allow to cool slightly. (You can also refrigerate until the crust hardens).

2 Make the filling Melt the white chocolate. Carefully mix the mascarpone, cream and castor sugar together. Stir in the chocolate. Fold in 250g of the mango purée and the lemon zest and check for sweetness – the

sweeter the mango, the less sugar you need. Pour the mixture into the prepared crust and refrigerate until set.
3 Spoon the remaining mango purée on top of the tart and decorate with sugared flowers (see page 113).

Cheese and jam cookies

Makes about 24 cookies • Preparation time: 15 minutes • Baking time: 10–15 minutes • Oven temperature: 180°C

- 250g (250ml) salted butter, at room temperature
- 280g (500ml) flour
- 3ml baking powder
- 250g cheddar cheese, finely grated
- smooth strawberry or apricot jam

1 Cream the butter and add the flour, baking powder and cheese; mix until it forms a dough. Roll the dough into balls and place the balls in a small muffin pan (this will help them to retain their shape, but they can also be baked on greased baking trays).

2 Make an indent in the centre of each ball with the handle of a wooden spoon – be careful not to pierce it all the way through,

otherwise the jam will run out later. Bake the cookies for 10–15 minutes or until they turn light brown. We removed the tray after 10 minutes, pressed the holes again with the wooden spoon and then made a little flower shape in each hole with a small cookie-cutter. Bake for a further 5 minutes.

3 Allow the cookies to cool and then fill each hole with jam (or Marmite for a savoury snack) before serving. >>

baking
Put the kettle on!

These scrumptious jam cookies are always the first treats to disappear off the tea table.

Almond crescents with lavender

Makes 12 cookies • Preparation time: 20 minutes • Baking time: 20–25 minutes
Oven temperature: 160°C

- 250g (250ml) butter
- 50g (95ml) icing sugar, sifted
- about 15ml lavender petals (or to taste)
- zest of 1 naartjie
- 250g (445ml) flour, sifted
- pinch of salt
- 100g ground almonds
- extra almond flakes for garnishing (optional)

1 Preheat the oven. Cream the butter, icing sugar, lavender and naartjie zest until light and fluffy.

2 Mix the flour, salt and ground almonds by hand to form a stiff dough. Divide the dough into 12 equal pieces, shape each piece into a crescent and place on greased baking trays (leave enough space in-between so that they can spread).

3 Garnish the cookies with extra almond flakes and bake for 20–25 minutes or until golden brown. Allow to cool and sprinkle with icing sugar. Store in an airtight container.

The lavender and naartjie add a delicious twist to these cookies.





Summer cake

This tasty recipe comes from my friend Thea Willemse – it's a show-stopper!

Preparation time: 30 minutes, plus cooling time for the custard • **Baking time:** 20 minutes • **Oven temperature:** 180°C

- 3 eggs, separated
- 250g (300ml) castor sugar
- 5ml vanilla essence
- 100ml milk
- 40g (40ml) butter, melted and cooled
- 140g (250ml) flour
- 10ml baking powder
- 50g nuts, finely chopped

FILLING

- 450ml cream, whipped
- 1kg summer fruits (berries and nectarines)

1 Line two 23cm cake pans with baking paper and spray with non-stick spray. Preheat the oven. Beat the egg yolks, half the castor sugar and the vanilla essence together until light and fluffy. Stir in the milk and butter. Sift the flour and baking powder together and fold until just combined. Divide the batter between the pans and smooth the top.

2 Whisk the egg whites until stiff and fold in the remaining castor sugar. Carefully spread this on top of the batter in the cake pans and sprinkle with nuts. Bake for 20 minutes and allow to cool in the pans.

3 Assemble the cake Sweeten the cream with sugar and flavour with vanilla to taste. Spoon half the whipped cream onto one cake layer and top with half the fruit. Place the other cake on top and add the rest of the cream, followed by the remaining fruit.

Tip Greek yoghurt is a quick alternative to the whipped cream filling. >>

Granny Jonni's glamour cake

My grandmother Jonni from Villiersdorp was famous for this recipe. Almost every family member has a different memory of the taste and what it should look like, but the feather-light frosting and glacé cherries make it a winner.

Makes 1 cake

Preparation time: 35 minutes

Baking time: 40 minutes

Oven temperature: 180°C

- 125g (125ml) butter
- 210g (250ml) sugar
- 2 eggs
- 245g (440ml) plain flour, sifted
- 45ml jelly powder (we used strawberry)
- pinch of salt
- 180ml milk
- 12.5ml baking powder

FROSTING

- leftover jelly powder (about 20ml)
- 2 small egg whites
- 210g (250ml) castor sugar
- pinch of cream of tartar
- 60ml water
- pinch of salt

1 Preheat the oven. Line an 18cm cake pan with baking paper and grease the baking paper well with butter. Cream the butter and sugar and add the eggs, one at a time; beat well after each addition. Sift the flour, jelly powder and salt together and add to the butter mixture, followed by the milk. Mix this through and then fold in the baking powder with a few quick stirs. Spoon the batter into the prepared pan and bake for about 40 minutes, or until a skewer comes out clean. Allow to cool completely.

2 Make the frosting Put all the ingredients in a glass mixing bowl over a pot of boiling water on the stove and mix with an electric beater for about 7 minutes. The mixture should be thick and glossy. Remove the bowl from the heat and beat until the frosting has cooled slightly (if it stands for too long in the hot bowl, it may curdle).

3 Assemble the cake Cut the cooled cake in half and spread a thick layer of frosting between the two layers, on top and around the sides. Top with glacé cherries and decorate with meringue roses.

Rose-flavoured cream cones

Pretty – and delicious!

Makes about 12 cones

Preparation time: 45 minutes, plus overnight resting time

Cooking time: 25 minutes

- 90g (90ml) butter
- 250g (450ml) flour, sifted
- 150ml sweet white wine (we used gewürstraminer)
- 1 egg white for brushing
- oil for deep-frying
- 250ml cream
- 15–30ml castor sugar
- 30ml rose syrup, or to taste
- 100g white chocolate, melted
- 50g pistachios, chopped
- pomegranate rubies for garnishing

1 Rub the butter into the flour until it resembles breadcrumbs. Add the wine and stir to form a soft dough. Divide the dough in half, shape into flat discs and wrap these in cling film; leave to rest overnight in the refrigerator. (It's essential to rest the dough so that it can be rolled out thinly.)

2 Remove the dough from the refrigerator and bring to room temperature. Roll out thinly (about 2mm thick). **Tip** A pasta machine is perfect for this but a rolling pin works just as well.

3 Cut the dough into strips about 2cm wide and 35cm long. Brush each strip with egg white. Wrap the dough – brushed side outwards – around cone moulds (I bought mine at The Crazy Store). Start at the tip and work upwards; the dough must overlap.

4 Heat the oil and deep-fry the cones in batches until golden brown. It takes about 2–3 minutes per batch, depending on how hot the oil is. Drain on paper towel or a wire rack. Remove the moulds and allow the cones to cool completely.

5 Whisk the cream and sugar until it forms stiff peaks and season to taste with rose syrup. Melt the white chocolate and dip the tops of the cones into the chocolate, one by one; then roll in the chopped nuts. Fill the cones with the cream mixture and sprinkle with pomegranate rubies. Serve immediately, otherwise the cream will make the cones soggy.

Vanilla cupcakes

These are always a firm favourite at a party.

Serves 12

Preparation time: 10 minutes

Baking time: 12–15 minutes

Oven temperature: 180°C

- 150g (150ml) butter, at room temperature
- 150g (180ml) castor sugar
- 3 eggs, separated
- 5ml vanilla extract
- 150g (270ml) self-raising flour, sifted

CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

- 1 container (250g) cream cheese
- 105g (125ml) castor sugar
- 5ml vanilla extract
- 180ml cream

1 Preheat the oven. Beat the butter and half the castor sugar together until light and fluffy. Add the egg yolks and vanilla, and beat until well-combined. Carefully fold in the flour.

2 Whisk the egg whites until they form soft peaks, then whisk in the remaining castor sugar until glossy and fold this into the batter. Spoon into cupcake cases in a muffin pan and bake for 12–15 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean. Allow to cool completely on a wire rack.

3 Make the frosting Beat the cream cheese, castor sugar and vanilla together until well-mixed. In a separate bowl, whisk the cream until it forms stiff peaks and fold it into the cream cheese mixture. Spread the frosting onto the cupcakes and top with rosebuds.

Sugared flowers

Pick edible flowers such as violas, pansies, daisies and cornflowers from your garden, then rinse and leave them to dry. (Make sure the flowers have not been sprayed with poison.) Whisk one egg white, then use a fine brush to coat both sides of the petals with the egg white. Sprinkle immediately with icing sugar and leave to harden. 🏠

*Rose-flavoured
cream cones*

Dinner's on the table!

Set a table outdoors and enjoy the last rays of the setting sun.

By Johané Neilson • Photographs Francois Oberholster



Pasta with peas, ricotta & bacon

Under R90 • Serves 4 • Preparation time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes

- 400g fusilli
- 250g streaky bacon, chopped
- 250ml peas
- 250g ricotta cheese (or cream cheese)
- 30ml fresh lemon juice
- about 125ml mint leaves and pea shoots, coarsely chopped
- grated Parmesan cheese to serve

1 Cook the pasta in salted water until *al dente*; drain.
2 Fry the bacon in a frying pan until crispy (add a dash of oil if necessary). Add the peas and stir-fry until cooked. Add the ricotta, lemon juice, mint leaves and pea shoots and season with salt and pepper. Mix through the cooked pasta, sprinkle with grated Parmesan cheese and serve.



Stuffed pork steak

Under R150 • Serves 4 • Preparation time: 25 minutes
Cooking time: 45 minutes

- 4 pork steaks (3cm thick)
- 4 The Laughing Cow cheese wedges
- about 400g baby spinach leaves, blanched and refreshed in cold water
- zest of 1 lemon
- 15ml olive oil
- 3 leeks, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, chopped
- 2 tins butter beans, rinsed and drained
- 200g cherry tomatoes

1 Cut a slit in each steak and season all over with salt, pepper and lemon zest. Divide the spinach into four portions and wrap each cheese wedge in the leaves to form a parcel. Press the parcel into the slit of each steak and close the slit with a toothpick.
2 Heat a frying pan. Add the oil and fry the steaks fat side first and then on all sides until golden brown. Remove from the pan and sauté the leeks and garlic in the same pan until glossy. Stir this through the beans and add to an ovenproof dish. Arrange the steaks and tomatoes on top and bake in a preheated oven at 200°C for about 20 minutes or until cooked through.



Tuna fishcakes with salad

Under R75 • Serves 4 • Preparation time: 35 minutes
Cooking time: 15 minutes

- 2 medium potatoes, peeled and cooked
- 2 tins of tuna (together 340g), drained
- 1 egg
- 3ml chopped chives
- flour
- oil for shallow-frying

SALAD

Avocado, watercress, spring onions and pan-fried green vegetables such as beans and baby marrows

SALAD DRESSING

- 30ml lemon juice
- 5ml Dijon mustard
- 60–100ml olive oil

1 Mash the cooked potatoes and season with salt and pepper. Stir in the tuna, egg and chives. Take teaspoonfuls of the mixture, roll into balls and coat with flour. Fry the balls in oil until golden brown and cooked.

2 Beat the salad dressing ingredients together and season with salt and black pepper. Make a lovely fresh salad and stir in the dressing. Arrange the fish cakes on top and tuck in!



Asian chicken

Under R115 • Serves 4 • Preparation time: 25 minutes
Cooking time: 25 minutes

- 15–30ml oil
- 2 medium carrots, peeled and diced
- 4 baby marrows, diced
- 1 small white onion, finely chopped
- 1 green chilli, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, chopped
- 250ml rice, cooked
- 4 chicken breast fillets, cut into thin strips
- 45ml smooth peanut butter
- 15ml sesame oil
- 30ml soy sauce
- 125ml peanuts, chopped
- a handful fresh coriander, chopped
- 2 crisp lettuces such as cos, rinsed

1 Heat 15ml oil and stir-fry the vegetables until cooked and glossy. Mix into the rice and set aside.

2 In the same pan, stir-fry the chicken until golden brown and just cooked (add a little oil if necessary). Add the remaining ingredients, except the coriander and lettuce, and stir until heated through. Spoon onto the rice and sprinkle with coriander.

3 Serve the stir-fry in the lettuce leaves (use as bowls). 🏠



Sonja Jordt

On the side...

These deep-fried snacks straight out of the '80s are deliciously crunchy on the outside and soft on the inside.

By Sonja Jordt • Photographs: Francois Oberholster



Blooming onions

Serve with a dipping sauce as an appetiser or as a delicious accompaniment to a homemade hamburger.

Serves 6

Preparation time: 40 minutes

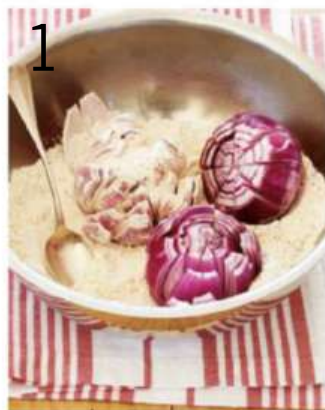
Cooking time: 5–8 minutes per onion

- 6 medium red onions
- 625ml (350g) flour
- 30ml paprika
- 5ml cayenne pepper
- 5ml ground cumin
- 5ml each dried thyme and oregano
- freshly ground pepper to taste
- 2 eggs
- 250ml milk
- 250ml water

Heat your oil to 200°C.

Tip

You can test the temperature of the oil with a small cube of bread. The bread should make the oil bubble as soon as you put it in and it should float in the oil, not sink. If the bread turns a beautiful golden brown within a few seconds, the oil is ready. If the bread becomes too dark too quickly, the oil is too hot. And if the oil doesn't bubble and the bread sinks, the oil is too cold.



2 Beat the eggs, milk and water together. Now dip each onion in the egg mixture, upside down, and allow the excess to drip off.

3 Once again, dip the onions in the flour mixture and shake off any excess. Place the onions on a tray and cover with cling film. Refrigerate for at least an hour; the longer they remain in the fridge, the better the flour coating will stick when the onions are deep-fried.

1 Cut off the top of each onion and peel them. Don't cut off the stem end; it helps to keep the onion intact. Cut each onion into quarters without cutting through the base. Cut each quarter again so that the onion is now divided into eighths. Pull the onion scales slightly away from each other to form petals. Repeat with the remaining onions. Mix the dry ingredients together in a bowl. Dip the onions, upside down, in the flour mixture, coating them liberally. Turn them over and, pulling the 'petals' apart carefully, spoon the flour mixture in-between to ensure that all surfaces are well-coated. Shake off any excess mixture.

4 Heat oil to 200°C in a saucepan. Once the oil is hot enough, fry the onions a couple at a time – depending on the size of your pan. The onions will lower the temperature of the oil – try to maintain the temperature at 200°C by regulating the heat. First immerse the onions in the oil with their cut side down; once they're golden brown, turn them over. Drain on paper towel and serve immediately while the onions are still crunchy. 🏠



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Leaf lessons

Our heritage food contributor, Karen Dudley of Woodstock's The Kitchen, argues the case for well-dressed greens.

It's all very well for me, the self-declared Salad Queen, to be snooty about the green salad (notice the singular) of my youth. You know the one – the ubiquitous iceberg lettuce with cucumber and tomato and a little blanched onion (if you were lucky).

Over time, the green salad has seen a number of upgrades: crumbly (crummy) feta, bits of fruit (pineapple, apple, orange), raw peppers and sprouts (not my favourite), croutons (phew!), olives and even red onion.

The truth is: this South African 'green salad' has served us well. Every braai or supper party had to have one to complete the meal. But I put it to you: there was a sense that this kind of salad was obligatory, a component to be endured, a nod to vitamins.

We've not talked much about this leafy salad, much in the same way as we do not talk about the pain of wearing high heels: we consider them an unquestioned necessity, serving a certain purpose. The potato salads and pasta salads would be tucked into with gusto, but any leaves on a plate would be limply pushed around.

It is not for lack of trying. Growing up, we had a marvellous wooden salad bowl which my mom taught me to rub with garlic and olive oil. And we made some beautiful salads in it.

Am I right in saying that South Africans like lots of bits in our leafy salads? I think because we see leaves as somehow being inadequate in some way, we feel the need to compensate with too much stuff, the poor delicate leaves becoming burdened by a weight of toppings.

It doesn't have to be this way! The leaves themselves – buttery or peppery, tender or crunchy – add an element all their own to a meal. I'm not saying there's anything wrong with the classic South African tossed salad, but I like

to eat all my leafy salad components separately and untossed (!). I am also a proponent of the well-dressed leaf.

I have taken leaf lessons from a few of my friends over the years – a leaf out of their salad bowls as it were. Luli, arguably one of my most fashionable and stylish friends in London, once made me a salad of iceberg lettuce lightly dressed with some very fine olive oil and aged balsamic vinegar, Maldon sea salt and freshly ground black pepper, all tossed together. This is still one of my personal favourites. I can eat the whole bowl! Ordinary, unfashionable iceberg elevated to something sublime and irresistible.

And my friend Rhian, a passionate environmentalist living on the Garden Route with an indigenous forest for a back yard, does something wonderful with baby spinach leaves (organic, of course). She tosses the tender leaves with flaxseed oil and Maldon salt and they are transformed into something so pure and delicious you can almost feel your skin glow.

Eliza, now a doctor of theology and mother of four, used to help me out when I first started cooking for people. We would bond over Caesar salad. Still today, just a mention of this salad will set our eyes sparkling with our shared passion for a good cos lettuce coated with lemony anchovy dressing and Parmesan!

There is such a vast palette of ingredients to play with when it comes to salad – the goal should always be to let each ingredient shine!

email@karendudley.co.za

Author of *A Week in The Kitchen* and *Another Week in The Kitchen*.



Karen's salad leaf tips

- Invest in a salad spinner; in my experience, the cheaper ones work the best.
- Develop your own personal vinaigrette; you can shake it up in a jar and tweak it to your taste.
- Leaves should be treated with the utmost delicacy: think the coolness of your fingertips, rather than a rough hand.

Sesame miso dressing

Sesame miso dressing

- 1 red chilli, finely chopped
 - 60ml vegetable oil
 - 37ml lime juice
 - 30ml miso paste
 - 15ml soy sauce
 - 15ml rice vinegar
 - 5ml sesame oil
 - 5ml toasted sesame seeds
 - 5ml grated ginger
- Whisk all the ingredients together in a bowl (or shake it up in a jar).

Zingy dressing

- 60ml finely diced red onions
- 60ml chopped gherkins
- 30ml capers
- 15ml Dijon mustard
- 5ml Worcestershire sauce
- 60ml chopped Italian parsley
- 150ml olive oil
- 15ml lemon juice
- 5 drops Tabasco sauce
- freshly ground black pepper to taste

Put all the ingredients in a food processor and blitz until a coarse pesto dressing is formed.

Zingy dressing

Baba ganoush

- Arrange 5 whole brinjals directly over the open flames of your gas hob. Turn every 4–5 minutes with tongs. They steam in their skins and the outside develops a delicious char-grilled flavour. The brinjals should be very soft inside (after about 20 minutes).
- Place the cooked brinjals in a colander, tearing the skin here and there so that the bitter juices can run out. Leave for 30 minutes to an hour. Squash the brinjals in the colander to extract more bitter juices.
- Now peel off the skin and place the flesh in the bowl of a food processor. It's a messy business; avoid too many charred bits getting into your baba ganoush.
- Blitz the brinjal with 3 cloves of crushed garlic, 2.5ml cumin, 5ml za'tar (a Lebanese spice mix with thyme and sesame seeds), 7.5ml salt, pepper to taste, 250ml creamed cheese, 100g Danish feta (optional), juice of ½ lemon and 20g Italian parsley into a dreamy spread. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with a pinch of sumac to garnish.





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Food & drinks

Take your pick – from juice and wine to fresh veggies!

By Johané Neilson
Photographs: supplied



A tale of two sisters...

Two (R300; Struik Lifestyle) is a culinary collaboration by former MasterChef SA contestants Seline and Leandri van der Wat. The cookbook offers two of everything: two different recipes with the same ingredients or two versions of the same recipe – one for a casual dinner and one for serious entertaining. All equally delicious, of course!



Wine online

Buying De Grendel wine is just a click away, thanks to the new look degrendel.co.za. The online wine store and website is easy to use, with special benefits for Loyalty Club members – so get clicking! *Be sure to add Op Die Berg Pinot Noir 2012 (R160) to your basket; this light, bright ruby red wine with well-structured freshness is so food-friendly and versatile, it will partner well with everything from salmon to tender lamb.*

Think pink

Help raise funds for the Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSA) by hosting your own event (and entering online to win Le Creuset goodies) or join Le Creuset on 22 October at the Oyster Box Hotel in Durban for a grand Cuppa for CANSA tea party. Tickets cost R350 and include sumptuous treats and great entertainment. For details, to buy tickets or to enter the competition, visit lecreuset.co.za.



Le Creuset has committed to contributing 15% of the sales of all their Chiffon Pink cookware – launched only this year – to CANSA from mid-September to end October.



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The secret is out

October sees the fourth Spier Secret Festival take place around the recently restored historical Spier Werf. On Friday **30 October**, local and international food and wine experts present talks and hands-on workshops to small groups. On Saturday **31 October**, the all-day annual Spier Werf Market offers Spier wines, food from local producers and farm-style kids' activities. Visit spier.co.za.



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Treat yourself to the ultimate farm experience. From just R988 per adult per night you can enjoy a two-night stay in a Signature Room at Spier Hotel including wholesome breakfasts and a dinner, a unique lunch experience at Eight (a farm-to-table restaurant), a wine-tasting and a rejuvenating spa treatment. To book, email reservations@spier.co.za.



Up your game

Young and old can learn the tips and tricks of delicious (and healthy) cooking at Koa Culinary Studio in Centurion. They offer hands-on workshops and cooking demonstrations that'll have the whole family getting creative in the kitchen. For details, call 083 448 1749 or go to koastudio.co.za.



Take a trip

The newly renovated Oude Werf in the historical heart of Stellenbosch has retained its charm but now boasts a number of modern twists. Spoil yourself with an overnight stay to take in the décor details or enjoy a meal at the lovely Oude Werf Restaurant. The cheesecake is legendary! Check out oudewerfhotel.co.za.



Market day

Don't miss Oranjezicht City Farm Market (OZCF)! Every Saturday from 09:00–14:00 at Granger Bay in the V&A Waterfront, more than 60 traders bring fresh, locally-grown fruit, veggies, herbs, pantry essentials and artisanal foods to market – groceries sorted!

Keep it cool

The deliciously fresh Two Oceans ranges of red and white wines boast affordable quality. They're all crafted by the warm sun and cool sea breezes of the Cape, where conditions are ideal for the slow ripening of the grapes, intensifying their flavours.



WIN!

Twenty lucky readers will each win a gift set including two bottles of Two Oceans wine and a limited edition cooler bag worth R180. To enter, SMS the keyword TWO OCEANS followed by your name, email and postal address to 44284 (each SMS costs R1.50) before 31 October; see competition rules on page 128.

Fruit 'n florals

Doolhof Cape Crane 2015 (R45 at the cellar) is the estate's second 100% Chenin Blanc with a refreshing bouquet of succulent fruit and delicate florals – perfect for a picnic on the picturesque estate situated in the historic Boven Valley outside Wellington. Go to doolhof.com.

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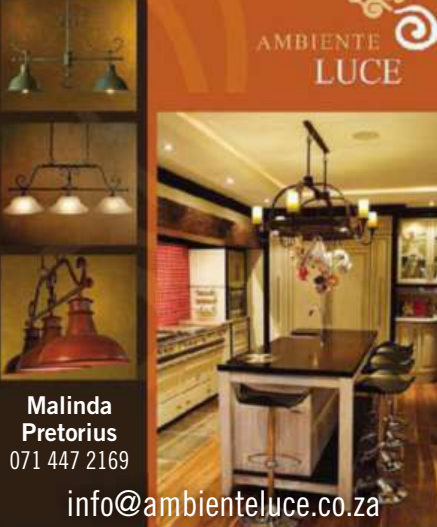
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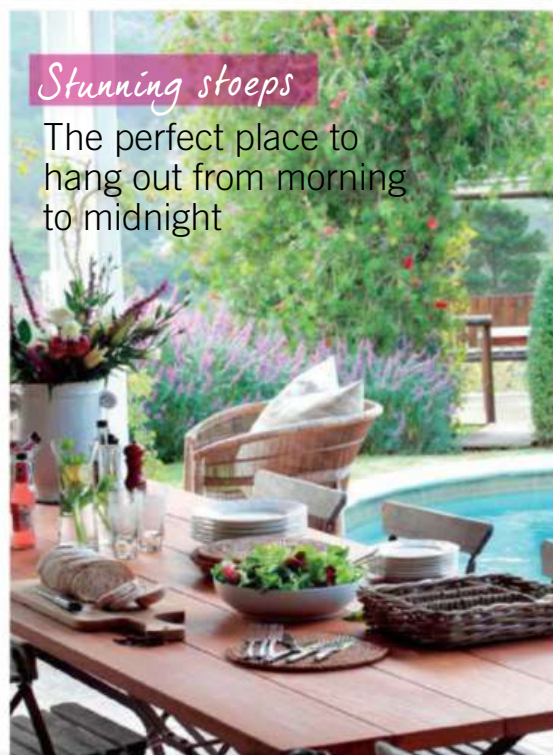
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The personal touch

It's the little things in life that make all the difference...

There are many things in life that bring me joy. Poetry and music. Swimming in a mountain pool. A *braai*broodjie and a flask of coffee in a backpack. Beautiful trees. Good friends gathered around my table, chatting. A baby nodding off on my shoulder. A cat on my lap late at night in front of the fire. And the utterances of little children, in all their innocence – all of these make my life better.

Which reminds me of an endearing story. A woman had invited a few guests for dinner and had cooked an elaborate meal. Her toddler had been 'helping' her with the preparations in the kitchen. Once the guests were comfortably seated at the table, the woman asked her daughter to say grace.

The sweet little girl felt a bit shy and asked her mother: "But what should I pray, Mommy?"

Her mother answered reassuringly: "Just pray to the Lord Jesus the same way I always do."

Whereupon the little girl uttered: "Dear Lord, what possessed me to invite all these people?"

Something else that gives me unending joy is when someone does something not only beautiful and good and kind, but does so in a clever and original way, paying close attention to the smallest personal detail.

When staying at a guesthouse, it goes without saying that everything should be squeaky clean and tidy.

One is usually welcomed by fresh flowers and maybe a choccie on your pillow.

But sometimes, on rare occasions, you feel like you are the most important person in the world.

And this is how my husband and I felt while staying at a guesthouse once. Every night we would receive a rolled-up piece of

paper, neatly fastened with a ribbon, on our bed. The first night, we were puzzled. Was this our bill? No, not a bill, but a bedtime story – a wonderful humorous folk tale. That first night, my husband read it out loud to me in his beautiful voice and I slept deeply and sweetly. The next night we received a different story, equally exciting and wonderful. On the third night, we couldn't wait to see what tale awaited us. I will never forget that guesthouse.

We once visited a game farm in the Bushveld. The meals were delicious, the hosts and staff treated us like gold. And the day we departed, we realised just how special we were: the entire staff gathered together to see us off. The owners, the chef, the gardener, the waiters, everyone was there to bid us farewell. We climbed into our car and as we drove off, they all pulled out white handkerchiefs and waved us goodbye, bidding us a safe trip. We stopped the car and jumped out, simultaneously laughing and crying. Never had a departure been so special.

I once stayed with close friends in Portugal. The meal that was served was a fragrant, traditional dish with lots of potatoes and four different kinds of sausages that had been prepared by the housekeeper. During the course of the evening, my host enquired as to what year I'd been born. I'm not ashamed of my age; I told him. After dinner he disappeared for a while. The housekeeper brought small vintage glasses to the table, plus a well-used wooden board laden with mature cheese. My host returned from his cold cellar under the house, a bottle of port in his hand.

My jaw dropped when I saw what it was. A dusty bottle, the label timeworn after many years in a dark cellar. The vintage was 1957. My birth year. I wanted to stop him from opening that valuable bottle of ambrosia but it was already too late; the aroma of rich fruit filled the air. He poured me a glass. I was the most important person in the world – that's how he made me feel.

Maybe, if I'm lucky, someone at my funeral will share this kind of story about me. I'm going to try my best.

Riana

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